A Tale of Two Cities

Suffolk Sketchbook 1989

A Special Supplement To The Suffolk News-Herald, Sunday, August 20
and The Market Basket, Wednesday, August 23, 1989

Suffolk is truly "A Tale of Two Cities"

Newcomers to Suffolk may already know that the Peanut Capital of the World is the largest city in the Commonwealth - not in population, but in square miles. What they might not know is that the city hasn't always been the largest. In fact, as a city, today's Suffolk is only 15 years old.

The Suffolk we know today is actually (with a thanks and apology to Charles Dickens) "A Tale of Two Cities." In 1974, after years of discussions, studies and lawsuits, the cities of Suffolk and Nansemond (formerly Nansemond County) merged to form today's city of Suffolk.

Both Suffolk and Nansemond had close ties for over two centuries. And at the time of the merger each brought its own unique history -- and problems -- into the union. Nansemond was an agriculturally-dominated economy while Suffolk was strictly urban with designs on annexation. The cover of this edition of Suffolk Sketchbook combines those two elements -- a field of corn and soybeans representing Nansemond, overlaid against the skyline of downtown Suffolk.

For someone to know today's Suffolk, it is important to know the history of both former cities.

Staff writer Barbara Coleman has utilized history texts in compiling a capsulized glance at the history of Nansemond County and Suffolk, with a brief look at the short-lived City of Nansemond. More detailed information about the two localities can be found in the histories she cites at the end of her stories.

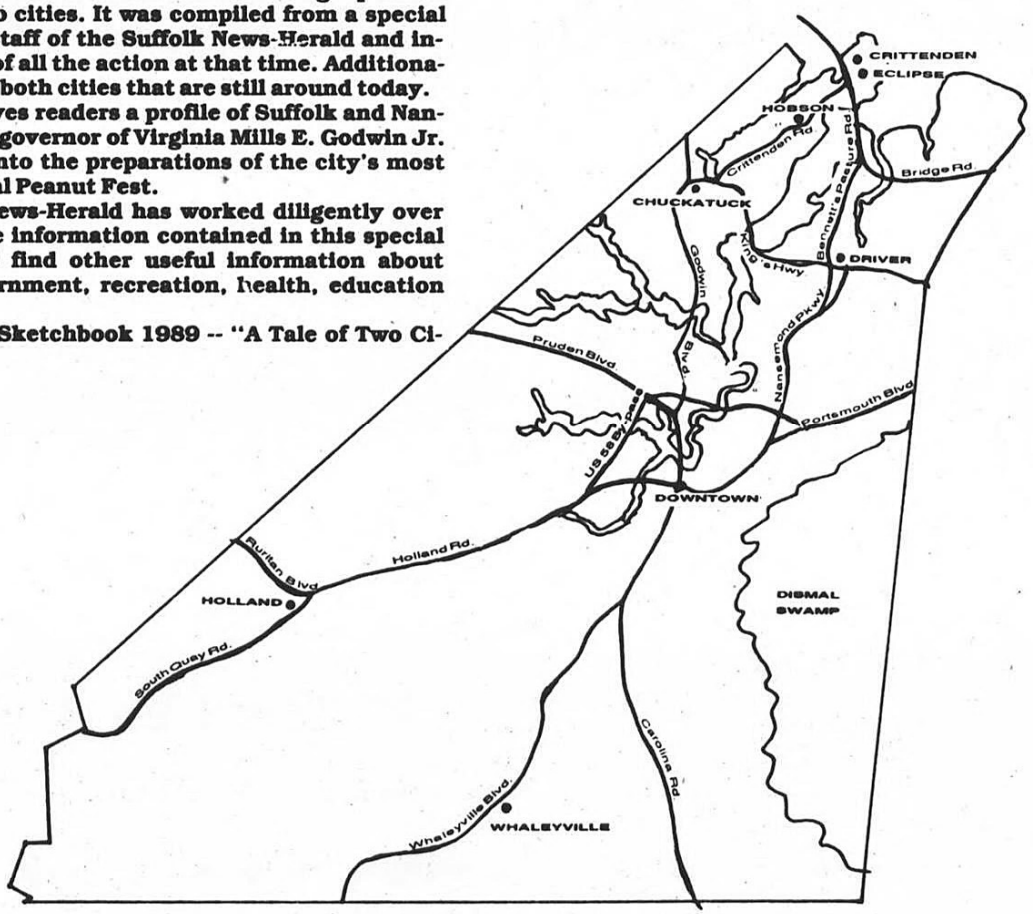
Nansemond County was more than just a county; within its borders were several towns and villages that played a large part in the history of Nansemond -- Chuckatuck, Holland, Whaleyville, Crittenden, Eclipse, Hobson and Driver. Staff writer Stephen Cowles has compiled a short look at each of these communities.

Staff writer Corrin McHugh presents a detailed look at the legal process leading up to the merger of the two cities. It was compiled from a special portfolio prepared in 1975 by the staff of the Suffolk News-Herald and included news articles and accounts of all the action at that time. Additionally, she talked to representatives of both cities that are still around today.

Beth Ownley, assistant editor, gives readers a profile of Suffolk and Nansemond's most famous son, former governor of Virginia Mills E. Godwin Jr. Also, she provides a little insight into the preparations of the city's most popular social attraction, the annual Peanut Fest.

The entire staff at the Suffolk News-Herald has worked diligently over the past two months compiling the information contained in this special edition. Additionally, readers will find other useful information about other aspects of their city -- government, recreation, health, education and more.

Welcome to the pages of Suffolk Sketchbook 1989 -- "A Tale of Two Cities."



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City-County Merger Wins Backing: Joint Study Group Sees Many Benefits

By CORRIN McHUGH
STAFF WRITER

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of Light, it was the season of Darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair, we had everything before us, we had nothing before us...."

Charles Dickens in the Tale of Two Cities

These famous lines begin the classic tale of two men living in London and Paris during the French Revolution, but these same words can describe the beginning of the current City of Suffolk.

The roots of today's city could be traced back as far as 1966, when the County of Nansemond and the City of Suffolk proposed a joint housing authority between the two governments. The question was put to a referendum in both localities, but failed.

However, most citizens who remember the story of the consolidation will suggest that the roots of the city stem from the Annexation suit between the County of Nansemond and the City of Suffolk in 1972.

The story opens just three months before the court case convenes....

The March 2, 1972 headlines of the Suffolk News-Herald read "City-County

MERGER Part 1

Merger Wins Backing: Joint Study Group Sees Many Benefits." The story with the headline relates how a joint county-city task force returned a 39-page report that took a year to prepare.

The study concludes that a merger between the two localities would "avoid needless duplication of departments, ensure efficient and orderly planning, provide a broader tax base, as well as a larger market for such (joint) services as sewage (collection and treatment) and refuse collection."

This same study notes that out of the 10 city-county consolidations attempted in the state at the time, only four had successfully won voter approval.

The main obstacles to winning voter approval, according to the report, would be questions regarding cross-city busing as well as the Suffolk citizens's fears that Nansemond's population outnumbeedr the city population.

The recommendation to merge came "in spite of the annexation suit now in the courts. And the committee found that a negotiated annexation (of property by Suffolk) would be preferable and (would save time and money)," according to reports.

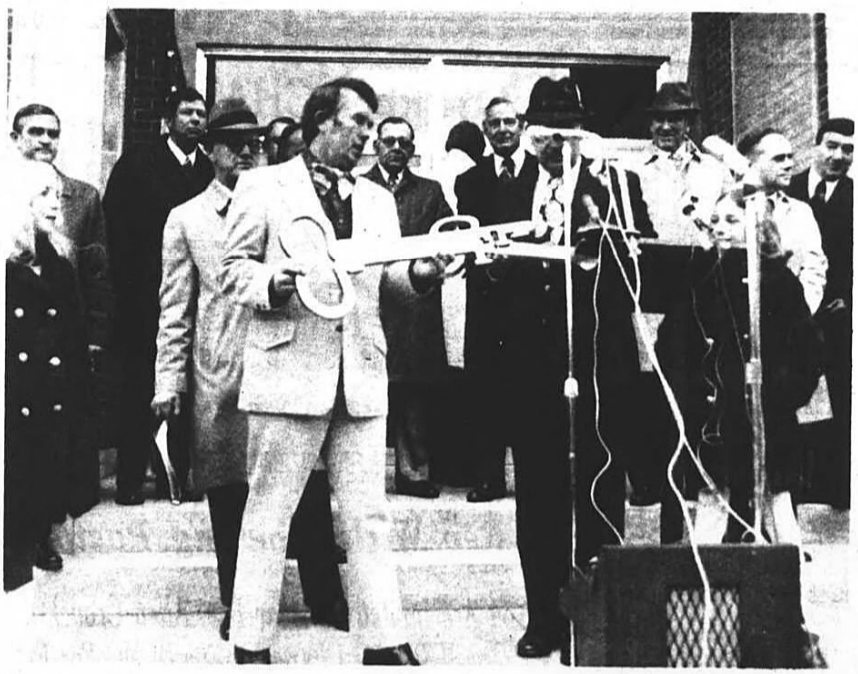
A University of Virginia professor considered to be an expert in the field of city consolidation related that a successful merger agreement needed to contain six basic elements:

- The name of the emerging unit.
- The fair value of all property belonging to the merging units.
- The outstanding debt of the merging units.
- The effective date of consolidation.
- The disposition of all outstanding debts of the merging units. And
- The disposition of all real and personal property of the merging units -- following consolidation -- including the disposition of any debts due the merging unity.

Less than a week after the report came back, the Nansemond Board of Supervisors urged joint talks on the proposed consolidation, that the two localities jointly pool their experts to prepare an agreement and a charter for the consolidated city and that the annexation suit -- scheduled for two months later -- be continued as a sign of good faith.

The Consolidation Study Committee, in its final report, suggested that the first step to a merger should be an out-of-court settlement of the pending annexation of Nansemond County by the City of Suffolk. At the same time, the committee suggested that a ten-member committee -- five from the county and five from

See STUDY, page 4-A



Nansemond's mayor, D.J. Mangum, and Suffolk's mayor, James F. Hope, turn in the keys to their respective cities in a symbolic gesture of merger. Looking on in the background are key officials and other dignitaries from both cities.

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Study

Continued from page 3-A

the city -- should begin meeting to determine the financial consequences of merging the two governments.

Next, the committee should be prepared to explain the benefits of the merger to the citizens who would eventually give the final approval by referendum.

Although the two localities began private negotiations for a merger, a last ditch effort to postpone the annexation suit passed at the Suffolk City Council, but failed by one vote from the Nansemond Board of Supervisors.

Ironically, it was the board that made pleas to the city before the beginning of the trial to continue or withdraw the annexation suit.

See STUDY, page 21-A

Judge orders cities to study consolidation; pros and cons debated

By CORRIN McHUGH
STAFF WRITER

MERGER Part 2

The first days of June 1972 marked the beginning to what would later be called a unique annexation suit.

The Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals appointed a three judge panel to determine if the City of Suffolk did require more land for expansion. The city petitioned the court for 17 square miles to add to its current two square mile city limits.

Nansemond countered the city's claim and offered only half the amount of land that Suffolk wanted. In fact, the county proposed different county-city boundaries which would cause the city to inherit two low cost housing developments and a modern sewage treatment plant.

Judges George F. Whitley Jr., of Isle of Wight; Harold H. Purcell of Louisa; and Raynor V. Snead of Washington, Va. spent the first two days of the hearing being taken around to the areas of the county that the city wanted to annex and to the areas of the county that the county officials were willing to concede.

Two weeks of testimony would follow the initial tour.

The City of Suffolk, in order to be awarded the 17 square miles that it sought, had to prove that the city had a genuine need for such land, that the present landowners and tenants needed services not now available to them under Nansemond County and that the city was ready, willing and able to assume full financial responsibilty for these services.

The city was the first to validate its reasons for annexing county land. William Zollerman, an expert on city planning and development, testified that Suffolk's declining population and lack of adequate land expansion justified the city's claim to the 17 square miles.

"If cities can't expand, they tend to decline, rather than staying on a plateau of optimum use," Zollerman told the judges.

Furthermore, he testified that in his best professional opinion the loss in taxable revenue to the County of Nansemond would be offset by its

See JUDGE, page 6-A

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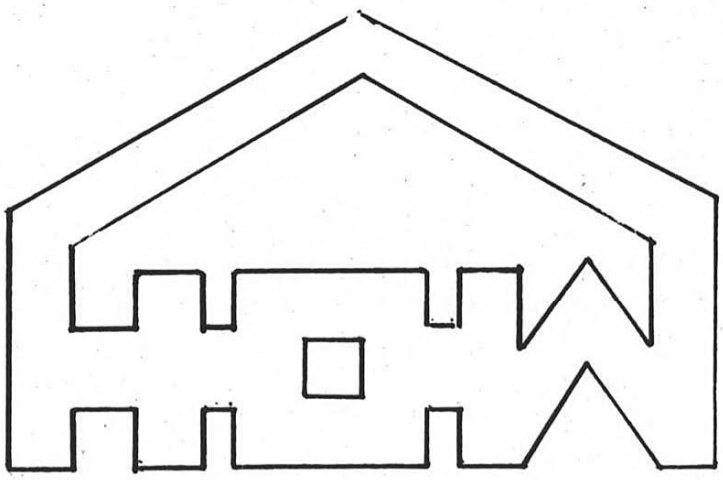

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Judge

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loss in expenditures for services to those areas.

"We hope to give Nansemond the equivalent of what she has now, even though Nansemond would be serving fewer people.... Initially, the County would feel a loss of revenue, but the county's going to be relieved of many urban-type services which Suffolk can more efficiently provide," Zollerman was reported to have said.

Statistics were presented that proved that the population of Suffolk had shrunk by 20 percent as the population of Nansemond grew by 19 percent -- nearly 7 percent above the state average at the time.

The then Suffolk City Manager, C.M. Moyer Jr., was also called to testify on the city's behalf. The city manager indicated that the city would improve its subdivision ordinance, increase fire protection, increase police forces, provide sewer, street lights, trash pick-up and build a new elementary school and a new high school for the annexed areas.

Although the subject of the annexation was serious, humor was interjected throughout the case.

The county attorney's grilled Zollerman on the proposed city fire protection to the annexed areas of the county. Drawbridges bordering on the city-county lines were a main concern. When asked what the city would do if a major fire broke out of the far side of the drawbridge when it happened to be open for a boat -- since the city had no plans for a fire station in that area -- Zollerman chuckled, "Well, I believe the first thing that I would do is to close the drawbridge."

In the same vain of cross-examination, Moyer illustrated time runs that he and his staff made. "By the time Chief Hollowell (then the city's fire chief) gets to this underpass, we'd be right up his tailpipe, so it's purely academic from that point on," said Moyer.

Suffolk School Superintendent William R. Savage Jr. indicated that annexing East Suffolk, from the county into the city, would be "catastrophic" to the delicate balance in the city school system between "advantaged and disadvantaged" children.

County Attorney James Garett tried to rebut the testimony stating that teacher dedication determined the success or failure of the children's ability to learn. He cited such examples as Socrates, Jesus Christ, Hillel and St. Paul but failed to discuss his arrangements for these distinguished gentlemen to be available to teach in Suffolk during the 1972-73 school year.

Then Governor Mills E. Godwin Jr. delivered the keynote address at the merger ceremony. Suffolk city officials, Harry L. Cross Jr., Dr. George Barnett and Andy Damiani are in the background.

The testimony turned to the Nansemond experts who contended that since neighborhoods like Jericho, Saratoga, South Suffolk, East Suffolk, Lloyd Place, Rosemont and Hollywood were outgrowths of the city, and not of the county, that the city should assume the responsibility for the neighborhoods.

Several key witnesses noted that areas of the county that the city wanted were agricultural and would benefit the city far more than it would benefit the county residents.

Such farmers as Richard Jordan, Jack Wygal, Jesse Williams, the Rountree Dairy, Inc. and Ralph Smith sought to be left out of the annexation citing higher taxes, restrictive City livestock ordinances and no real need or desire of city services.

Fan Panton, a VPI Agricultural Extension representative, told the judges that under the city's proposal, it would annex 28 farms and portions of others. The result would be 1.6 million pounds of peanuts, 460 cattle, 5,430 pigs, four 4-H Clubs and nine Home Demonstration Clubs.

Her testimony stated that the city did not need these things and that the benefits to the rural dwellers was often omitted from the City's Bud-

See JUDGE, page 24-A

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Nansemond takes first step in bridging the gap

By CORRIN McHUGH
STAFF WRITER

The Nansemond Board of Supervisors was the first to extend the olive branch of piece the day after the three-judge panel of the annexation suit took the decade old case under advisement.

The Nansemond Executive Secretary George Cornell said that Chairman D. J. Mangum Jr. wrote Suffolk Mayor James F. Hope that "we can now eliminate some of the hard feelings engendered by what people had to say in the annexation trial."

Soon after, the County and the City officials began meeting around the clock in secret, according to Andrew B. Damiani, a Suffolk Councilman at the time.

MERGER Part 3

After the first joint meeting, the Nansemond Executive Secretary and the Suffolk City Manager C.M. Moyer issued a joint statement:

"The Board of Supervisors met with members of the Suffolk City Council to explore the possiblity of preparing an agreement for consolidating the County and the City to be presented to the voters in November.

"The Board and the Council

See COMPROMISE, page 8-A

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Compromise

Continued from page 7-A

both expressed their belief that such a course of action was in the best interest of the citizens of both the County and City and a full and frank discussion of the problems involved in effecting such a consolidation was held.

"It was decided that every effort would be expended toward the preparation of such an agreement and definite plans were developed and responsiblities assigned.

"Subsequent meetings will be scheduled as information relative to the agreement is developed."

Eleven days later, the County of Nansemond became the largest city in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The county earlier that year quietly introduced legislation into the General Assembly to receive its charter. Fear that neighboring localites would annex large chunks of the county lands, prompted officials to push the bill for incorporation through the state's legislation before other cities filed suit for county land.

In a 100-minute ceremony in a courtroom, the Board of Supervisors changed their titles from supervisors to councilmen, from chairman to mayor and executive secretary to city manager.

History would prove that little else would change in the one year life of the new city, which spent most of its time negotiating with its sister city for consolidation.

The two cities imposed a one-month deadline to have a charter and a merger agreement drafted, giving the governing bodies and voters approximately two months to review the documents before the November 7 referendum.

"We meet around the clock every day with outside attorneys and our own attorneys. We had to work out a lot of compromises to make a merger acceptable to the public. Like everything else there was fear of the unknown, " said Damiani.

The first proposed compromise hit the papers on the last day of July. According to reports, the two city councils agreed that "all questions in regard to the new charter were resolved and the two City Managers and the City Attorneys were directed to prepare a draft for approval."

The councils agreed that real estate assessment for land within the consolidated city would be based on use rather than acreage. This agreement was common throughout the country which placed homeowners, farmers and industries in different taxing categories. This system was considered more equitable for taxing.

The final draft that was sent to each council for approval proposed the name of the merging city to be the City of Suffolk, that the new government would have seven elected representatives, a 10-member school board and that the old City of Suffolk would have two representatives and a larger voting borough to offset the impact of the Nansemond population on the number of voters.

The charter also provided for the protection of both cities' employees in their job security and pay, giving the city

See COMPROMISE, page 22-A

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Cities take merger idea to the public

By CORRIN McHUGH
STAFF WRITER

The Cities of Nansemond and Suffolk had two months to answer questions and to convince the citizens to vote favorably for a consolidation of the two cities.

The first project was to explain how a merger would

MERGER Part 4

save money for the taxpayers in both cities. Confusion surfaced around the fact that the City of Nansemond assessed the value of property at 25 percent for real estate taxes, while the City of Suffolk assessed property at 50 percent of its value.

In order to equalize the taxing rate between the two localities, negotiators had to double the assessed value of property for Nansemond on paper and then to cut the tax rate in half. So that before the merger a piece of land in Nansemond was assessed at 10,000 with a tax rate of $5.20, but after the merger, the same piece of land would be assessed at $20,000 with a tax rate of $2.60.

(Damiani said that since the time of merger, the state has passed a law which requires all localities to assess the value of real estate at 100 percent of its value.)

A consolidation steering committee appointed a 24-member committee to fan out across the two cities and answer questions to church groups, civic leagues, community organizations and any other group interested. Suffolk had 14 members on the committee and Nansemond had 10 - including the mayors from both cities.

In a Suffolk News-Herald interview with Nansemond Mayor D. L. Mangum Jr. he

See PUBLIC, page 10-A

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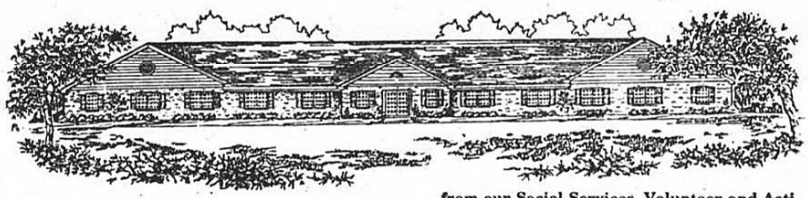

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Public

Continued from page 9-A

said that he did not believe that taxes would go down if both cities merged.

"We can certainly do it (run the city government and provide necessary services) more efficiently as one city then we could as two," said Mangum.

Suffolk Mayor James F. Hope agreed in a similar interview. He noted that although the city's experts indicated that taxes would decrease slightly, the inflation level and the need for capital expenditures would negate the effects of the lower taxes.

"Certainly efficiency can be achieved through merger and the cost of government stabilized. However, if merger fails, and the people who're opposed to merger keep getting higher and higher tax bills, they'll move out of Suffolk, as so many already have," said Hope.

Mangum believed that the main obstacle to merger was a 1966 feasiblity study on a proposed consolidation.

"The main thing that seems to bother Suffolk voters is a 1966 feasiblity study that came up with the conclusion that merger at that time was not feasible. But a great many of the obstacles that existed then are no longer prevalent," said Mangum.

In 1966, Suffolk's population was larger, the County of Nansemond did not have a police department, the operating budgets were diverse and the consultants admitted to including capital expenses that probably shouldn't have in the study.

Another consideration was whether or not the state would continue to maintain the roads and highways in the county. In 1966, the Virginia Department of Transportation would not be responsible for all the roads in a merged city. However, for a three year period in the middle 70s the state passed legislation which would allow VDOT to continue maintaining roads.

According to the current City Manager John L. Rowe Jr., the consolidated City of Suffolk is the only merged city in which VDOT will maintain the old county roads until perpetuity. When the city merged, the legislation did not have a cap on the amount of time that the state will be responsible for old county roads. Shortly after the merger, the state placed a ten year cap on the program.

By 1972, the operating budgets of the two governments were more closely aligned. The County of Nansemond had its own Police Department and the county began enforcing minimum building codes for its housing stock.

According to Mangum, in 1966 the Nansemond had a real problem as far as the Shingle Creek area was concerned.

"Now we have made great strides toward solving that with low cost housing about to be occupied.... We've also started to enforce our minimum housing ordinances which means that as our substandard houses become vacant we are forcing owners to bring them up to minimum standards before they can be reoccupied," said Mangum.

The Suffolk Mayor saw the main obstacles to the voter referendum differenlty.

"Well, there is always fear in a city the size of Suffolk that we'll be gobbled up by the far more numerous citizens of Nansemond and the new council will not be responsive to the needs of the central city," said Hope.

His proposed solution to the perceived problem is for the voters to elect councilmembers who would be responsive to the entire city's needs.

Both mayors agreed that fear of cross-busing for racial balance in the schools was a concern which would have to be disspelled.

"The chief worry of some parents is that where Suffolk schools are now all within virtual walking distance of a student's home, that would not be true in the merged city, but I don't foresee any problem here," said Mangum.

"The racial balance in the new city will be about 50-50. In both school divisions it's just about that now, so there would be no real point in cross-busing great distances to achieve a racial balance we already have," said Hope.

The citizen committee in charge of answering questions about the merger were also asked why the consolidated city would be called the City of Suffolk. According to the joint council, the name was chosen because it was internationally recognized. Also since Suffolk already had a post office, which was used for Nansemond, the leaders believed that to continue having the Suffolk name

See PUBLIC, page 23-A

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With merger vote yes, cities begin merging offices

By CORRIN McHUGH
STAFF WRITER

MERGER Part 5

The actual process of merging the two cities was easy and went off without trouble, according to Underwood.

Tom Underwood

The former Nansemond employees moved from the old Nansemond city hall to the Suffolk Muncipal Building, which was expanded for an additional courtroom, city offices and the City Council Chambers.

The department heads from each of the duplicate offices decided among themselves who would be the department head in the merged city and who would be the assistant.

"The councils were impressed by the mandate of the people and worked together," said Underwood. "The next six months was pretty much business as usual." Daminal noted that problems did come with the merger and that the consolidated city has spent the last 15 years working to solve them.

"We executed a marriage. And when you marry it is for better or worse," said Damiani. One of the major problems facing the new city was the number of substandard homes.

"The taxpayers were fearful that providing water and sewer to the substandard neighborhoods was a big responsibility. It is a big responsibility and one we are still dealing with after 15 years," said Damiani.

The city has received some federal funding assistance in rehabilitating such neighborhoods as Pughsville, city water extensions down White Marsh Road and sewer extensions to South Suffolk, Lloyd Place, Pierce, Saratoga, Rosemont, and other inner city areas. Hollywood and Jericho will be the next neighborhoods to receive sewer through the federal funds.

In a letter from council

See MERGING, page 12-A

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Merging

Continued from page 11-A

dated May 1989, the city boasted that since 1981 18.5 miles of neighborhood sewer has been installed within the city. With the previous capital improvements expenditures as well as the current capital improvements projects, the city estimates that $18.1 million dollars will have been spent on sewer.

To further reduce the stress of poor housing stock on the city's taxpayers, in 1982, the city began sending out Minimum Housing Notices to houses not in compliance with the Building Officials and Code Administrator's (BOCA) National Existing Structure Code.

Of the 500 homes cited between 1982 to 1988, 290 have been brought into compliance. Over 100 of the homeowners that have not complied have been taken to court.

The city has, during the same period of time, issued 461 demolition notices of which 238 property owners complied and 82 property owners have been taken to court.

Meanwhile, the Suffolk Redevelopment and Housing Authority has brought additional money into the city to provide rental assistance for low to moderate income citizens, rental rehabilitation loans and grants, single family rehabilitation loans and grants and funds for a shelter for the homeless.

Together, the SRHA and the city worked in conjuction to revitalize and rehabilitate the neighborhoods of Saratoga/Philadelphia and are currently working to improve South Suffolk, Rosemont and Hall Place.

Damiani notes that council's philosophy is now moving towards stopping substandard housing before it starts.

"What's not substandard today will be in 10 years without the necessary attention," said the councilman.

Before the voter referendum on the merger, Nansemond Mayor Mangum noted that industrial growth could reduce the tax burden on the citizens of the merged city. In order to entice industry, a city would need to be in the position of providing services.

In 1975, the consolidated city received $119,000 in Community Development Block Grant money from the federal government in order to develop the infrastructure at Wilroy Industrial Park which currently has 18 businesses and 808 employees, according to a Management Services Report.

Since the cities merged, Suffolk is able to offer 6,000 acres of land already zoned for commerce and light and heavy industry.

Some of the city's major industries include Allied Colloids, Inc., Birdsong Corporation, Brown Jordan Company, Planters Peanuts, Gold Kist, International, Thomas Lipton, Inc., Hills Brothers, The Alantic Film Studio, Cable Value Network and Falcon Cable.

At the time of merger, the consolidated city had 10 departments; Finance, Law, Police, Fire, Public Works and Utilities, Public Health, Social Services, Farm and Home Demonstration, Education and Park and Recreation.

Now the city has 14 additional departments; Fleet Management, Public Information, Management Services, Engineering, Public Utilities, Aviation, Community Development, Economic Development, Personnel, Librarian, Purchasing, Data Processing, Real Estate Assessor and Registrar.

As a part of the merger agreement, two special taxing districts were established to pay off the debt of each city before consolidation and to provide a different level of service.

The Suffolk special taxing district boundaries were established as the old Suffolk city limits. This juridiction would receive trash pick-up twice a week, mosquito control, street cleaning and storm sewer maintenance.

The Nansemond taxing district, which included all the old county, would receive trash pick-up once a week and agricultural considerations for their taxes.

The Suffolk Special Taxing District paid off its pre-merger debt several years ago while the Nansemond Taxing District will not finish paying its pre-merger debt until 1992, according to Assistant City Manager of Administration and Finance Leon T. Johnson.

According to City Attorney William C. Johnson major changes were made to the city's originally approved charter in 1987.

Cities begin looking to the future

By CORRIN McHUGH
STAFF WRITER

The foundation was laid 15 years ago for what the City of Suffolk is today and will be in the future, according to Councilman Andrew B. Damiani.

A member of the old Suffolk City Council and serving on the council since the two cities merged, Damiani believes that the infant council made four very important decisions which determined the success of the consolidated City of Suffolk.

MERGER Part 6

"The first thing that we (the 10-member council) did was to decide where we were going and what we were doing," said Damiani.

In the first year of the merger, the city hired consultants to prepare a landuse plan. The plan, which established Urban Development Areas, was eventually adopted by the council. UDAs are areas within the city that growth will be encouraged to take place. Generally, development outside these areas is discouraged by the zoning ordinances adopted to accompany the growth plan.

Two years later, the city adopted the 1990 General Landuse and Thoroughfare Plan which proposed that certain areas in the city be designated agricultural, residential, commercial and industrial. The plan also outlined future transportation policies.

Also in 1976, council adopted several tools which would help it to implement its managed growth policy. These tools include the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance, the Subdivision Ordinance and the Capital Improvements Program.

A second building stone for the city came with the agreement to allow the Hampton Roads Sanitation District to provide sewer to the area, according to Damiani.

"We could've never sewered the areas that we have sewered now. Besides that's a business that the city would not want to be involved in," said the councilman.

However, by allowing HRSD into the city, the council understood that it had to make some concessions.

See FUTURE, page 13-A

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Future

Continued from page 12-A

"By allowing HRSD to extend sewer in the city, council had to face the trade off of the constant struggle with having too much growth in one area and not enough in another," said Damiani.

The fact that the northern sections of the city are experiencing rapid growth while the southern sections of the city are receiving little to no growth is evidence of Damiani's statement.

Supply and demand are the rules to receiving HRSD sewer extensions. If there are not enough customers on a proposed line to pay for the extension, then the public utility deems the project economically unfeasible. This fact kept the County of Nansemond from receiving sewer extensions before the merger and was one of the selling points to voters during consolidation.

A third foundational block to the consolidated city was getting into the water business, according to Damiani.

"Water is one of the few comodities from which a city can make a profit, " said Damiani.

The city built a water treatment plant out at Lone Star Lakes which currently supplies the city with some of the cleanest water in the Hampton Roads area. The city owns two groundwater resources which is estimated can supply the city's popluation needs through the year 2000.

Hiring a good modern administrator in Robert G. House, was the council's fourth foundational block which made the consolidation of the city a success, according to Damiani.

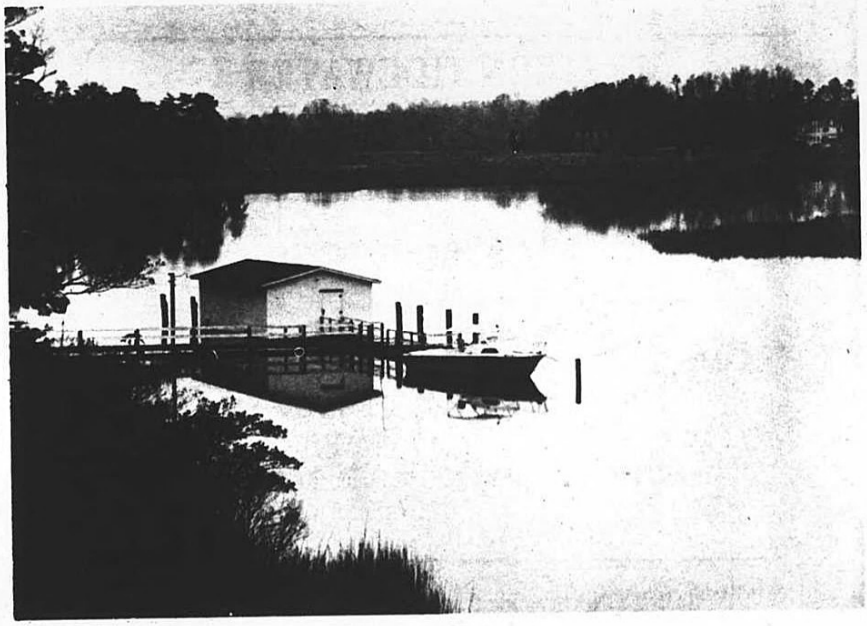
"He talked council into accepting federal and state money sometimes with strings attached and sometimes without," said Damiani, who noted that accepting money from other government sources was contrary to council's philosophy in the middle 70s.

City Manager House also established the city's first Management Services department which acted as an in-house consultant and applied to government agencies for funding to various projects, according to Damiani.

The result was that money began pouring into the city and it's a philosophy that has been carried on since that time, according to Damiani.

"We didn't dream that we could go as far as we have in the short time that we have

See FUTURE, page 24-A



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Nansemond County first explored in 1608

By BARBARA COLEMAN
STAFF WRITER

The part of Virginia that was to become 'Nansemond County' was first visited by white men when Captain John Smith brought his explorers to the area in 1608. The exploration party found the land inhabited by a large and powerful tribe of Indians who called themselves the Nansemonds.

The Indians took their name from the fact that the village they lived in was situated at a 'fishing point or angle" on the western branch and the southern branch of the river. The word Nansemond means fishing point or angle.

The Nansemond Indian tribe was a part of Chief Powhatan's confederacy and lived along the shores of the river and its various tributaries. Their largest village was located at Reid's Ferry where they lived in wigwams. The chief's wigwam was on Dumpling Island.

While most of the Indians lived along the river there were still many who preferred to live inland. Many of their stone weapons and tools are still found today.

The tribe was about 200 strong and kept about 1,000 acres of land cleared for raising corn, beans, and melons. The were one of the largest tribes in Virginia at that time.

There were several other Indian tribes in the area and as they visited back and forth they followed trails along the high ground next to the river. When the colonists settled the county they used these same trails as roads after they were widened. Some of the most important roads in the county follow those same trails today.

At a later time ferries were established over several of the rivers and creeks in the county. Among the first was the ferry from Ferry Point to Sleepy Hole Point. Others were from the Indian village of Nansemond at what is now Town Point to Hampton, one from Bennett's Creek, Reid's Ferry, South Quay, and two over the Nottoway River.

During the 'Great Massacre' of 1622 some settlers were reported as being killed. As soon as the colonists recovered from the shock of the attack, war was declared on the Nansemond Indians and the governor made an expedition against them.

Their lands were destroyed by burning the crops and homes. With nothing left to live on they left the area and took shelter among other tribes. When a truce was declared the Indians finally settled the interior of the county away from the river.

A few Nansemonds made their way to the Great Dismal Swamp and lived there for a time. They finally settled in Bower's Hill where they adopted the language, customs, manners and religion of the English people there.

Early settlements in the county

In 1637 the name of the river was changed to the Maltravers River after an English Lord who had a land grant here, however, it wasn't long before the new name was abandoned and reverted back

See COUNTY, page 16-A

Where pleasure craft now ply the waters, Captain John Smith and his men sailed up the Nansemond River becoming the first white men to visit the area.

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County

Continued from page 15-A

to the name Nansemond River.

Nansemond County was also formed in 1637 when Maltravers and two other Englishmen were granted a parcel of land. The Nansemond River was in the center of the grant.

At one time the county was much larger than it is today. It took in land that now belongs to Isle of Wight County extending over the Blackwater and Nottoway Rivers and to the Meherrin River on the N.C. line. In 1728 much of the northeastern part of N.C. was considered a part of Nansemond County.

In 1637 Major General Richard Bennett held 2,000 acres of land and that land is known today as Bennett's Pasture. He later became a governor of Virginia and left much of that land to take care of the poor of the parish.

Records indicate that by 1648 the farmers and planters lived in luxury for their day with large orchards and farms. Bennett's records show that he brought in 'Austin, a Negroe,' to work his farm. This is the first instance of a black person in Nansemond County.

In 1672 Peter Montague of Nansemond became one of the first school teachers in Virginia.

17th century progress

In 1667 an act was passed to build forts in the county and a meeting was called to consult, advise and determine the best ways and means to build them. It was determined that each fort had to be capable of holding eight great guns and the walls had to be 10 feet high and three feet thick.

In 1680 a town was ordered built at what is now known as Town Point. It was know then as 'Due's or Dew's Point,' or 'Hough's Point.'

Villages were established at Somerton, originally called Summertown, Chuckatuck and South Quay. Tobacco was being raised for money and vegetables were being grown for home consumption. This is about the same period that a man living along the

See COUNTY, page 17-A

City of Nansemond existed less than one year; milestone was annexation suit filed by Suffolk

By BARBARA COLEMAN
STAFF WRITER

The City of Nansemond was established in 1972 to keep Portsmouth from annexing any part of Nansemond County, said then City Councilman, Moses R. Riddick.

"Also, we had physically merged because the county seat was Suffolk," he said. "The fact is that we were living together but we weren't married," he added with a laugh.

Riddick notes that there is not a lot of information available on the City of Nansemond because not a lot went on. "About the most important thing we accomplished was to negotiate the water rights of the lakes in Chuckatuck," he said. "The deal was not finalized until the merger of Suffolk and Nansemond County."

The merger of the towns of Holland and Whaleyville with Nansemond County created the City of Nansemond after the councils of those bodies entered into an agreement to effect a consolidation of these areas into a single city.

Riddick was on the Board of Supervisors prior to the merger. When the merger went into effect Riddick and the rest of the board members became members of the City Council.

George M. Cornell was executive secretary of Nansemond County when the county turned into a city. He served in that office for one year until the City of Suffolk and the City of Nansemond merged.

"The people of Nansemond County felt that there was considerable danger from the city of Portsmouth from taking them in," he said. "Virginia Beach and Princess Anne County had recently merged and formed the city of Virginia Beach to prevent annexation by Norfolk."

Cornell notes that there were several more mergers between cities and counties in the Tidewater area during those days. "So what Nansemond County did was not unusual," he said.

Hopes ran high as officials met in the old city courthouse to change the title of elected officials of the city. "The Chairman of the Board of Supervisors for Nansemond County was D.J. Mangum Jr.," said Cornell. "When the City of Nansemond formed he became the mayor and I became City Manager.

Cornell notes that for a number of years there had been discussions of the merger of Nansemond County and Suffolk. "Suffolk was a city of about two square miles and had not had any expansion by annexation or otherwise for quite a number of years," he said. "It was getting necessary to secure additional area to develop the city."

According to Cornell, Suffolk hesitated to make an annexation suit because the city was surrounded by a largely black area which did not have services of water and sewage.

"It would have been rather expensive for Suffolk to take over part of this area," said Cornell. "And, part of the argument a city makes is that it can provide the necessary services of sewage, water, police protection, and fire protection better than the county."

Cornell notes that if Suffolk had annexed the territory around the city and taken in some more prosperous areas they would have had many expensive problems facing them immediately.

Cornell said that there had been discussions between Suffolk and Nansemond County of a merger prior to the suit."Nansemond County argued that it was time for the merger to stop annexation by Portsmouth," he said. "Suffolk argued that the time was not appropriate."

Suffolk finally filed an annexation suit against Nansemond County but at the time the suit was brought to trial Nansemond County had become the City of Nansemond. According to Cornell the suit was the most memorable event during the existance of the City of Nansemond.

At the end of the trial three judges came in and their decision was to give the City of Nansemond and the City of Suffolk 45 days to come up with a merger plan. If they didn't the court would make a decision on the annexation case.

The city and the county both decided to work out the merger and a committee was appointed and worked steadily for about one month to come up with the merger plan.

The City of Nansemond existed for only about one year before the merger of the City of Suffolk. "It was really just business as usual because the city was basically involved in fighting the annexation suit," said Cornell.

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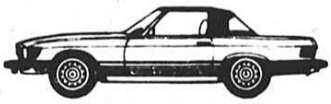
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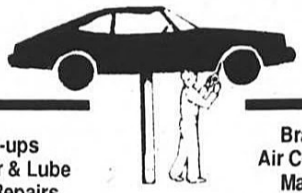
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County

Continued from page 16-A

Nansemond River began to make fish hooks for use in the colony.

18th century progress

During the first few years of the Eighteenth Century disputes over the location of the N.C. and Virginia line began to occur. Then in 1712 a settlement was forbidden in the disputed territory while engineers tried to established where the line should be.

Colonel William Byrd headed up the Virginia party which was to determine the lines.

By this time there were ships coming up the Nansemond River to trade with planters. Tobacco was a big item. In 1730 regular tobacco warehouses had been established along the shores of the river in this county. One existed at Lawrence's, one at Sleepy Hole Point, and one at the widow Constance's, which was the site of the old City of Suffolk.

In 1742 the Town of Suffolk was chartered to be located at Constance's warehouse and a ferry was soon established at the foot of what is now Main Street to Jordan's Point. The Clerk's office and the courthouse were located in the new town as early as 1755, and a new brick church was ordered built or the corner of what is now Church and Prentis Streets.

The Great Dismal Swamp was visited by George Washington who was prospecting. When he reported to his associates they formed a company to develop the lumber industry in the swamp. Since Washington was a surveyor and an engineer he supervised the developments.

A canal was cut from White Marsh Road to Lake Drummond and has been known from that time on as Washington's ditch. A town grew up at the end of this canal and was known as Dismal Town. Montague conducted a school there.

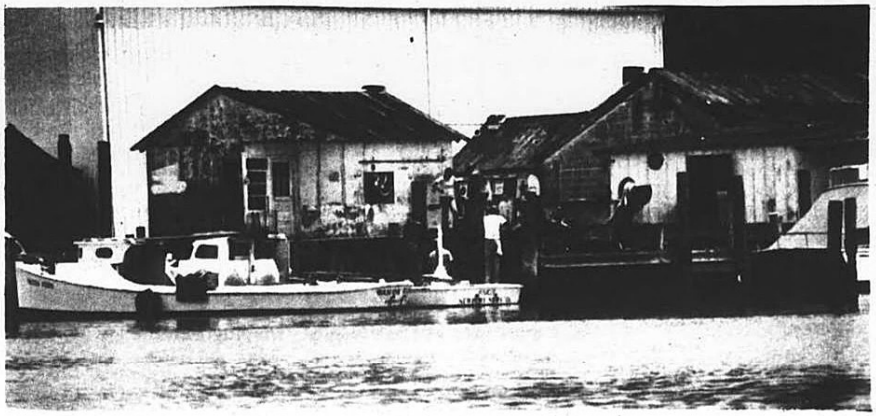
Peanuts make their entry into Virginia

About 1760 peanuts began to make their way into gardens and were cultivated on a small scale. They were considered a luxury back then and took the place of many imported nuts, especially during the Christmas seas[illegible]

Planters record[illegible]hat the peanut is b[illegible]ed to be of African o[illegible]n and that it was cultivated along with the potato in Egypt during the time the pyramids were being constructed.

Another authority states that the peanut found its way to Virginia aboard a slave ship when slave traders used them to feed the slaves.

Peanuts continued to be cultivated for home consumption until about 1860. After the soldiers of the Civil War discovered them in fields and enjoyed their taste the demand rapidly increased after the war ended. They even became popular in the north and southern farmers found their cultivation profitable.



When the first white men came to Nansemond County, Indians were harvesting food from the waters. The settlers soon followed suit and even today, many people still earn their living from the waters in this area.

The peanut hulls were even profitable since they fed the famous Smithfield hogs which are known the world over.

Nansemond began to make profits from the lowly peanut even before there was a peanut factory in the county. Since its establishment, Suffolk, the county seat, became the largest peanut market in the world. Every other line of business in the city began to reap great benefits from the industry. The peanuts and porkers have built the city and towns, the banks and

See COUNTY, page 18-A

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County

Continued from page 17-A

businesses of this old county.

Suffolk and the Revolutionary War

South Quay (pronounced 'key') had become an important town by the time of the Revolutionary War. Located at the head of the Blackwater River, it was a busy center of commerce, with exports and imports of goods.

On May 11, 1779 the British approached Suffolk and 200 men marched out to fight. They were all either killed or captured and the British marched into the town taking over the large supplies of pork and lumber products. On May 13 they set fire to the town.

Eight thousand barrels of tar, pitch, and turpentine which were stored in warehouses along the river burned and flowed across the river. The marshes on both sides of the river burned and set the town on fire. It was totally destroyed.

The Dolphin was one of a number of ships built in Suffolk which saw service in the Revolutionary War. The ship fought bravely against the British but it was sunk in action.

When the war was over people returned to restore the town and soon the Jericho canal was cut from Suffolk to Lake Drummond to save hauling timber overland. Lumbering became one of the most important industries of the county, employing a great many men.

Conditions at the close of the 18th century

Masses of people were living off the products of their farms at the beginning of the 18th century. They were producing tar, turpentine, staves, apple brandy, corn, pork, and beef, with a little tobacco and black-eye peas being the money crop in the county. Travel was by horse and cattle or cart. Mail facilities were poor and newspapers were few. Books were scarce and costly, and roads were crooked and at times impassable.

John Yeates provided for the maintenance of two free schools in his division of the parish in the year 1731. Cypress Chapel Christian Church was founded as a glebe church in 1746 and Holy Neck Church in 1747. Western Branch Baptist Church was the first Baptist church founded in the county in the year 1777.

When the War of 1812 broke out the Nansemond militia was out in full force as they knew what had happened to the county in the Revolution. General Lafayette visited the county and spent one night in the town of Suffolk.

In 1830 the first railroad was established in the county. It ran from Portsmouth to Weldon, N.C. The route ran through virgin forests and the rails were large sills strapped or covered with thin iron. The engines were small and very crude affairs. The cross ties were hollowed out between the rails so that mules could be used if steam was not successful. After a trial of steam, the long eared mule was substituted for a while, but even that was abandoned after the railroad failed to show a profit.

Suffolk was the site of a tragic accident on the early railroad. In August of 1837 a passenger train collided with a lumber train and three ladies were killed and 140 others were injured. During this same year the old Suffolk Courthouse on Main Street and Constance Road was built.

The Suffolk Intelligencer was the first newspaper published in the county. Publication began in 1849 and it was published twice a week and contained primarily local advertisements and articles of general interest.

The Civil War and the siege of Suffolk

In 1861 the War Between the States broke out and Nansemond County by its location felt the brunt of the struggle. It sent about 1500 men to the Confederate army and navy. At the outbreak of the war, Suffolk became a rendezvous point for Confederate troops. On May 10, 1862, Norfolk, Portsmouth and Suffolk were evacuated by the Confederate troops and on May 12th, Colonel Dodge's New York calvary rode into town. From then on the country between Suffolk and the Blackwater River was a kind of no man's land, visited almost daily by detachments and foraging parties from one army or the other.

For the next three years the county felt the ills of war as churches, schoolhouses, mills, barns, and private dwellings were burned. Railroads were torn up, shipping was sunk and provisions were taken.

Salt became very scarce and the dirt in the old smokehouses was dug up and soaked and the water boiled to get salt enough to save meat. Everything had to be made at home from the show peg to the bride's hat.

There were skirmishes between the scouting parties, and on January 30, 1863 the battle of Kelly's store was fought between General Pryor's command and the Federal forces from Suffolk. On April 11, Longstreet advanced on Suffolk and with his troops besieged Suffolk until May 3rd when he retired beyond the Blackwater River.

While his army was around Suffolk there was fighting on the Somerton and White Marsh Roads, and near Providence Church. The Federal gunboats also did battle on the Nansemond River at Hill's Point and one of their gunboats was sunk at that point.

When the siege was over many of the large farmhouses had been burned and Federal troops left the county in July of 1863. There were only about 300 people left in the town.

Nansemond County rebuilds

Peanut cultivation had assumed large proportions in Nansemond County and the first peanut factory was built in the county by the Farmer's Alliance in 1890. In 1898 the Suffolk Peanut Company began to mill peanuts. This was followed by other peanut factories until Suffolk became the world's largest peanut market.

Capitalizing on the worldwide demand for the peanut, a group of businessmen, individually or collectively, over the next few decades would transform Suffolk into the nation's 'Peanut Capital.' They were L. Franklin Bain of Wakefield, John King of Windsor, John D. Pinner of Suffolk, Henry L. Lummis of Philadelphia, Pa., and Amedeo Obici of Italy.

Railroads in Nansemond County

From 1870 to 1900 many railroads were constructed in the county. The Jackson Brothers Railroad from Whaleyville to Suffolk was built, and it was continued to North Carolina. The Gay Manufacturing Company's railroad, now the Norfolk and Southern, was built, and the Norfolk and Carolina railroad, now the Atlantic Coast Line, was built. The Tidewater railroad, now the Virginian, was built about 1905.

The 1900's

During World War I the county went over the top in the sale of Liberty Bonds. Nine men in the city were cited for bravery, while forty made the supreme sacrifice.

In 1910 the United States census counted 26,886 citizens living in Nansemond County.

In 1941 the county held its first National Peanut Festival on January 28 and 29. The celebration drew national attention as several circus elephants from Barnum and Bailey's Circus gobbled up truckloads of peanuts piled onto North Main Street in front of city hall which was where Woolworth's is now located.

Nansemond is 'status quo' during the 60s

Tom Underwood, the current assistant city manager of Suffolk, was a young man during the 40s and recalls that not a lot of history changed during that time. "After the second World War the county just sort of went along and it didn't really grow that much but was just sort of status quo," he said.

The growth really started with the construction of three new high schools in the early 60's Underwood said. "The county built John F. Kennedy, John Yeates and Forest Glen."

In '64 the county hired its first executive secretary, George M. Cornell, for professional administration to handle the county's business. "Prior to that it had been

See COUNTY, page 22-A

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Suffolk: a place which is healthful, commodious and convenient to cohabit in, bring goods to, and trade

By BARBARA COLEMAN
STAFF WRITER

The history of the City of Suffolk goes back to colonial days. The site was owned by Daniel Sullivan Sr., Burgess and clerk of the court in 1702. The town was named after Suffolk County in England. It is believed that many citizens came from that area and settled here because the typography of the lands are the same.

The area was a populous community before the town was established. It was described in 1742 as a place which is healthful, commodious and convenient for trader to cohabit in, bring their goods to, and trade.

The 50 acres of land for the town was purchased from Jethro Sumner and his wife. Among the board of trustees was Lemuel Riddick, William Baker, William Wright, Edward Wright, Mills Riddick and Edward Norfleet. The price paid for the town was three pounds per acre.

The lots were divided into plots not to exceed one-half acre each and the trustees were to provide a place for a market, a quay, and wharves and cranes were to be built.

Each purchaser had two years from the date of purchase to erect a house on his lot. If the house was not built the lot reverted back to the trustees. At this time Sir William Gooch was Governor of Virginia and Lemuel Riddick represented Nansemond County in the House of Burgesses at Williamsburg.

Houses in Suffolk were small at first, and some had wooden chimneys since brick was scarce. Many used stone instead of brick. Some of these old stone underpinnings are still standing in the old part of the town. The wooden chimneys were outlawed in 1745.

A ferry was established over the Nansemond River in 1744. In 1753 the parish church was built in the town at a cost of 595 pounds. By 1755 the courthouse and the clerk's office were a part of the city.

A large trade with the surrounding country and Eastern North Carolina grew up and ships were being built large enough to carry 300 hogshead of tobacco.

In 1722 goats and hogs were not allowed in the streets of Suffolk, and about 1765 there was a great amount of trade passing through Suffolk via the Great Dismal Swamp. George Washington visited the new town many times while developing his company in the swamp.

When the Revolution began Suffolk became a military depot and quantities of stores were gathered in the warehouses and on the banks of the river and creeks.

Suffolk by its position was the logical place to assemble stores for the army and navy of the state and in May 1779 as much as 8,000 barrels of tar, pitch, turpentine and large quantities of rum and brandy and 9,000 barrels of salt pork were in the town awaiting shipment.

These supplies along with military stores were all destroyed when the British raided and burned the town on May 13th of that year. Suffolk was visited by General Tarleton in 1780.

After the war ended it took several years to rebuild the town, but it recovered rapidly. About 1794 the Jericho Canal was opened and for more than a generation the canal brought a great amount of business to the town.

In 1880 an ice company began to cut ice from the river in the wintertime for use in the summer, and at the same time they attempted to introduce ice to the West Indies.

The Union Church was established on Cedar Hill after the old colonial church was torn down. The church was used by all denominations.

The population in the town had grown to about 1,000 and all business was transacted around the wharf section of the town. The trade was mostly in barter for tar, staves, shingles, pork, beef, and black-eye peas.

General Lafayette visited the town in 1825. He was received with much ceremony and spent the night here.

The town was almost destroyed by fire in 1837 and after the fire the center of the town was moved nearer to where it is now located. After the fire Mills Riddick built his home to house his family of 12 children. Because of the large size of the house, it was called by the name 'Riddicks Folly.' During the Civil War the house was used as a hospital for soldiers and a headquarters for General John J. Peck. The Riddick family occupied the house for 130 years.

In 1849 the city's first newspaper, the Suffolk Intelligencer, was established by John R. Kilby. The Christian Sun was purchased and moved to Suffolk by the Rev. W.B. Wellons.

A slave market stood on

See SUFFOLK, page 20-A

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Suffolk

Continued from page 19-A

Washington Street in Suffolk in 1858 and in 1859 the first bank building in the town was erected on Main Street at the head of Bank Street.

During the Civil War Suffolk became a training camp for troops from Georgia and South Carolina. During Longstreet's seige of Suffolk there were about 60,000 Federal troops in the city. In July of 1863 the troops left and there were only about 300 people left in the city.

In 1866 the clerk's office and all records of the city were burned and in 1869 the Farmer's Bank of Nansemond was organized through the influence of Dr. William B. Wellons and his friends.

The Suffolk Public School system began in 1871. The school board was composed of John R. Kilby, R.B. Britt, and William C. McClenny. There were 186 white and 141 'colored' children of school age in the town.

In the year 1872 a new charter was granted providing for town officers such as sergeant, clerk, assesor, treasurer, overseer of the poor and the street commissioner.

The 'Suffolk Herald was established in 1873 and for the first time, public schools were now open four months a year instead of the usual three months.

In 1878 the 'Suffolk Grays' military company was established. They took part in battles during the Spanish War in 1898 and World War I in 1917.

During the Civil War soldiers from the Union and the Confederacy moved through Suffolk and its peanut fields. With the shortage of food on both sides they found the peanut could sustain and nourish them. At that time peanuts were not a major crop in the city but considered a luxury to be enjoyed at holidays.

The soldiers from the north soon spread the word of the peanuts taste and popularity spread nationwide. By 1881 Virginia was supplying most of the northeastern market. During those times 40 bushels per acre was considered a good crop.

By 1866 the lumber business in Suffolk had approximately $1 million invested in it and Suffolk became the lumber center of Tidewater.

Around 1885 Lake Kilby was purchased as a water supply for Portsmouth, Berkley and Suffolk. During June of the same year a fire destroyed the entire business district of the city.

Another fire burned in Suffolk in 1888 and practically destroyed the business section once again. In 1890 there were 697 school age children in the city.

A view of part of the downtown shopping district as seen from the Main St. overpass.

Nansemond Collegiate Institute traced its roots to Nansemond Industrial Institute which opened in 1890. The school was the result of local black churches' efforts to provide blacks with the opportunity for an education. The founder was Rev. William Washington Gaines of First Baptist Church Mahan Street. The school functioned until 1939.

In 1891 street car tracks were laid out through the town and the County Clerk's office was built in 1894.

In 1907 the Suffolk Herald declared Suffolk as the "greatest peanut market in the world. There were 14 peanut production firms located in the city including Planters Nut & Chocolate, Pond Brothers Peanut Co., Suffolk Oil Mills, and Birdsong Storage Company.

However, it was Amedeo Obici, an Italian immigrant, who played one of the most important roles in the history of the peanut in the city. Obici came to the U.S. in 1888, arriving in Brooklyn, N.Y. He soon moved to Scranton, Pa. where an uncle lived.

He was a fruit stand vendor for a while and when he noticed a man eating roasted peanuts, Obici decided to sell the peanuts himself. By 1906 Obici and his brother-in-law had earned enough to go into a partnership. They rented a factory and began roasting peanuts. Obici even developed his own method of production for the peanuts.

The name 'Planters' was chosen by Obici because he liked the meaning, 'one who plants peanuts.'

Obici incorporated the company in 1908 and it became Planters Nut &Chocolate Company, and in 1913 he moved his company to the source and supply of the peanuts in Suffolk. Planters soon grew to cover 38 acres and included 36 buildings in the city.

Obici was a generous man and during the Depression years guaranteed his employees minimum wages, something unusual for that time. He also built a social club, the Planter's Club, for his employees in 1924.

"Mr. Peanut' is a symbol recognized the world over. The idea came from Obici and in 1916 he offered a prize for the best idea to symbolize his company. A 14-year-old Suffolk boy, Anthony Gentile, won the contest.

In addition to building a hospital in his hometown in Italy, he guaranteed that after his death (1947) and Louise's, his wife, (1938) a hospital would be built in Suffolk.

Without heirs (the couple was childless) and without other family, Obici left his estate in trust to a hospital which was yet to be built - the Louise Obici Memorial Hospital.

When Obici died the entire city turned out for his funeral in Cedar Hill Cemetery. When the hospital was built in 1951, he and his wife were later enshrined in the wall of

See SUFFOLK, page 21-A

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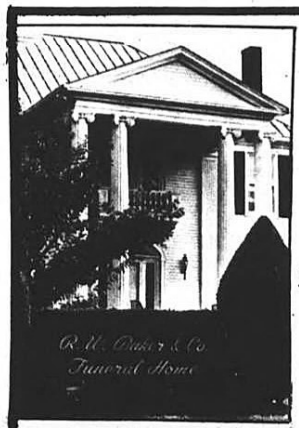

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Cedar Hill Cemetery, Suffolk's oldest, has gravesites that go back into the 1800's. This row of crosses over graves is in one of the oldest sections of the cemetery.

Suffolk

Continued from page 20-A

the reception room of Louise Obici Memorial Hospital, per their wishes.

Forty-two young men did not return home to Suffolk after World War II. A memorial to their sacrifices was constructed at Cedar Hill Cemetery.

The men who did return found Suffolk a growing industrial and commercial center. The peanut industry continued to be the area's primary source of employment.

After he war manufacturing enterprises included Benthall Machine Co., Ferguson Manufacturing Co., the Virginia Casket Compny, Webster Brick, and Hobbs-Adams Engineering Company. Four lumber companies flourished in the city as did meat-packing plants, the Suffolk Coca-Cola Company, and the National Produce Division of the Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company.

Lipton Tea established a

See SUFFOLK, page 23-A

Study

Continued from page 4-A

However, the City of Suffolk would never consider withdrawing the annexation suit which had been in the courts for nearly a decade. The city's attorney's advised that the annexation suit be decided in court, that city services be provided to the annexed areas and at a later date consolidation could begin.

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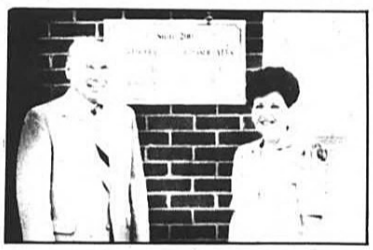

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County

Continued from page 18-A

handled by the board of supervisors and the clerk of the circuit court," said Underwood.

Underwood came to work as a zoning administrator for Nansemond County in 1966. "I've held many titles and worn many hats since that time and still do," he said.

Underwood said that a bright political star came over the horizon known as Mills E. Godwin Jr. "Godwin was born in Chuckatuck and he first served as a representative, a state senator, lieutenant governor, then governor," said Underwood. "He was first elected governor as a Democrat and then as a Republican. He served from 1966 to '70 the first time and then from '74 to '78."

According to Underwood, Nansemond didn't change a lot in the 50 years from the time of World War I until the 60's. "They still used mule-drawn farming implements and shallow wells with buckets," he said. "I would assume that after the World War II they began to change a lot with paving roads and rural electrification."

Nansemond County has produced two governors of Virginia. Richard Bennett and Mills E. Godwin Jr. served the state more than 300 years apart. If Bennett was still living, he'd be Godwin's neighbor since the place where Godwin was born near Chuckatuck is just a few miles from where Bennett lived.

Editor's note: Information for this article was taken from: 'Suffolk, a Pictorial History' by Kermit Hobbs and William A. Paquette; and 'The History of Nansemond County' by W.E. MacClenny.

Compromise

Continued from page 8-A

manager broader powers in administration of the city, created 10 municipal departments, and creating two special taxing boroughs.

According to T. G. Underwood who was the Nansemond Clerk at the time but is presently the Assistant City Manager, the hammering out of the agreement acceptable to both councils was not difficult.

The administrative details to be incorporated into the charter were not a concern to the councils. They agreed on these points, basically modeling the new city charter after other city council-manager forms of government. The two main areas that required give and take were the composition of the school board and the representation on council.

Underwood said that even these two issues were not major obstacles for the two councils that believed that a consolidated city was best for both cities.

When the final agreement went to the two separate councils for approval on the charter and agreement. Both documents passed with little trouble in both council meetings. The news story the next day pointed out that the number of citizens who went to the council meetings would not have made up two football teams.

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Summer Celebrations have become popular with local music lovers

By BETH OWNLEY
ASSISTANT EDITOR

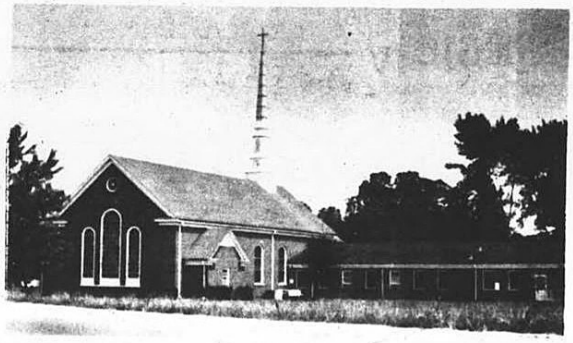
Although the majority of its efforts are concentrated on Peanut Fest, Suffolk Festivals, Inc. plays an important role in many other Suffolk events.

The organization, headquarted at Crestar Bank in downtown Suffolk, was formed after the 1984 Harvest Fest as a non-profit organization apart from the umbrella of the Suffolk Chamber of Commerce. Under Suffolk Festivals, the annual celebration was renamed Peanut Fest and its site was moved to the Suffolk Municipal Airport in 1985 where running water, electricity and paved walkways make it a mini-city.

Its number one purpose may be to organize Peanut Fest, but Suffolk Festivals also coordinates the Summer Celebration which is rapidly becoming a seasonal tradition in Suffolk. According to Patsy Privott, administrative coordinator of Suffolk Festivals, the event is a joint effort by the board of directors of Suffolk Festivals, chaired by James Cavender, and the city's Department of Parks and Recreation.

Held on alternate Fridays,

See MUSIC, page 24-A



Music, dancing, socializing and good times are part of the bi-monthly Summer Celebrations at Constant's Wharf.

Suffolk

Continued from page 21-A

plant in Suffolk which employed 200 persons and processed more than 15 million pounds of tea each year.

Typifying the times of the 50's, a 'colored' ward of twenty beds was set aside in Louise Obici Memorial Hospital. Separate admission centers, staffs, operating-room schedules and staff dining rooms were the norm - not only in Suffolk but throughout the South.

Suffolk, like most southern cities, faced sit-ins. Suffolk's black citizens held theirs at the F.W. Woolworth and Peoples Drug Store lunch counters, demanding an end to lunch counter segregation. A boycott of Suffolk merchants followed.

The decade of the '70's saw new accommodations between black and white residents alleviate segregation. Moses Riddick, elected in 1963, was the first black member of city council since Reconstruction.

During 1969 Suffolk was providing higher educational opportunities when the state funded two state community colleges to serve the city and Nansemond County. The Portsmouth Campus of Tidewater Community College and Paul D. Camp are located in the city for that purpose.

According to Thomas Underwood, assistant city manager at the present time, the city of Suffolk was an enjoyable place to shop when the central business district was downtown. "You could walk anywhere you wanted to," he said. "It had a lot more stores and the old City Market was there."

Underwood has pleasant memories of working as a meat delivery person. "On Saturday's, women would bring in huge armloads of flowers and in the back under a metal roof you could buy everything from cakes and cornbread to vegetables," he said. "Anything farmers could sell they would bring in."

Underwood notes that he misses the days of the horse drawn wagons delivering 25 and 50 pound blocks of ice to the homes. "We used to chop off a big piece and put a paper bag around it and eat on it 'til it would melt," he said.

He recalls that the City Farm maintained a 'piggery' on the land where the Farm Fresh Shopping Center is now located. "They would take the city's garbage out there and feed the pigs," he said. "They also raised corn to feed to the horses which pulled the wagons that picked up trash around the city."

The area where Suffolk Plaza is now located was once a city trash dump said Underwood. "Prior to that it was located in a place called White City, " he noted. "Back then people collected the paper, cardboard and metal so there wasn't actually much left to burn."

On Jauary 1, 1974, the cities of Nansemond and Suffolk merged to form the new city of Suffolk.

Editor's note: The above information was taken from; 'Suffolk, a Pictorial History, by Kermit Hobbs and William A. Paquette; and 'The Origin of Suffolk's Name' by W.E. MacClenny.

Public

Continued from page 10-A

would be less confusing and less expensive.

As the time drew nearer to the voter referendum, the Suffolk/Nansemond Jaycees, the Chamber of Commerce, the Suffolk News-Herald and former Governor Mills Godwin endorsed the consolidation of the cities.

The day of the election came. Of the 12,066 voters in the cities of the Suffolk and Nansemond, the vote came back a resounding 4 to 1 in favor of the consolidation.

Only one precinct voted against the merger. It was Ebenezer near Crittenden in the county of Nansemond. However, 86 percent of the Suffolk voters and 76 percent of the Nansemond voters cast affirmative votes.

"It's a mandate to make the new city work," said the Suffolk mayor.

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Music

Continued from page 23-A

Summer Celebration requires much time and effort. Besides booking entertainment, organizers must make provisions for sound equipment, security and portable toilets. Still, Suffolk's version of T.G.I.F. parties has been a success. "It's maintaining at this point," Privott noted. "We can see the crowds increasing."

With the success of Peanut Fest and the Summer Celebration, Suffolk Festivals has considered sponsoring other similar events. "This spring we considered the possibilty of a Spring Fling at Constant's Wharf site," Privott said. "As it is with many ideas, you get the concept but then you've got to have the volunteer base to pull it off."

She added that while the organization may sponsor a Spring Fling in the future, "we don't want to drain our volunteer base either."

Approximately 300 volunteers are working behind the scenes to ensure that the 12th annual Peanut Fest is a success. That group is overseen by 27 people who form an executive committee of coordinators and assistant coordinators.

"We are unique, and I'm very proud to be part of this festival," Privott said.

Judge

Continued from page 6-A

get.

Nansemond Superintendent of Schools Robert A. Wood suggested the City's plan to build two new schools were unduly optimistic for the time schedule that it proposed.

Under the county's counter-proposal, the City of Suffolk could acquire East Suffolk Primary and Middle Schools and John F. Kennedy High School. The city would also have 2,300 more students to add to its school system, but that only 1,400 would need to be bused to other schools.

Furthermore, Nansemond Police Chief H. L. Mundie testified that his police force, although smaller by ratio compared to the city's, his force could more efficiently patrol the county.

Fifteen days after the annexation suit began, the three-judge panel came back with it's decision.

The statement read:

"The Court has considered the evidence and arguments and in due course will render an opinion. It has been mentioned that this law suit has been a gun pointed at the County. We hope that this has been taken from the City and not pointed at anyone.

"However, the Court cannot disregard the evidence from both sides of the advantages of the Consolidation of Nansemond and Suffolk. To give the parties an opportunity to work toward unification, this Case will be taken under advisement.

"The Court requests Counsel for the City of Suffolk and Counsel for the County of Nansemond to report to the Court within 45 days the results of such efforts toward Consolidation.

"We call to your attention that there is an election in November, but that advance steps have been taken to submit this course of action to referendum. We hope we have a favorable report from Counsel for the parties within the 45 days."

Future

Continued from page 13-A

without being a burden on the taxpayer," said Damiani.

Assistant City Manager T.G. Underwood attributes the success of the consolidation on the council itself.

"City Council is the policy maker. The city managers merely carry out council's plans," said Underwood. "The momentum was there because the council was impressed by the mandate of the people and the cities were united to one cause."

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Suffolk's favorite son: Gov. Mills E. Godwin Jr.

By BETH OWNLEY
ASSISTANT EDITOR

As a young lawyer, Mills E. Godwin Jr. could have set up practice in virtually any city in Virginia or the nation.

However, the Chuckatuck native decided to return home to begin a career that would take him to the General Assembly, the lieutenant governor's office and finally the governor's mansion.

Despite many attractive offers to work and live elsewhere, Godwin never wanted to leave his hometown. "That's where my roots were," he said during a recent interview. "While they might have paid more, I wanted to come home."

Home was a 500-acre farm which is now the Bridge Point Trails subdivision. Born Nov. 19, 1914, Godwin lived on the farm until he was 14 when the family moved to the village of Chuckatuck. He graduated from Chuckatuck High School, attended the College of William and Mary and obtained a law degree from the University of Virginia in 1938.

While awaiting a commission in the U.S. Navy during World War II, Godwin was appointed a special agent with the FBI where he served for three years before resuming his Suffolk law practice. Godwin practiced law with his cousin Charles B. Godwin, who was the father of Judge James Godwin.

The quality of life in Suffolk and what was then known as Nansemond County was pivotal in Godwin's decision to remain in the area. He believes that quality is still evident, especially in Suffolkians' concern for their community.

"They want good education," Godwin said. "They want efficient governmental programs. They want good people to hold these positions. He added that the city is fortunate to attract fine people to Suffolk to work in both government and business.

Suffolk also has natural advantages, such as the historic Nansemond River as well as many lakes, which attract more and mroe residents. "We have a quality of life that's very good, and it will be better as the years go by, " Godwin noted.

He also believes the city will retain its hometown flavor as more people discover Suffolk's advantages. "It's been my observation that new people who come in Suffolk find many things they like," Godwin said. "They soon become part of us and want to be helpful in making the city better."

But as new residents become part of Suffolk, the city must deal with its burgeoning boundaries. "It is inevitable that growth is taking place, and we shouldn't try to resist the reasonable implementation of growth," Godwin said,

See GODWIN, page 2-B

Suffolk's favorite son, Mills E. Godwin Jr. is the only man to be twice elected Governor of Virginia.

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Godwin

Continued from page 1-B

noting that cities to the east have nearly reached their growth limits with Suffolk next on the list for urbanization.

"The key to it is to have good planning, good government, an awareness of what government ought to try to do for people, keep taxes in reasonable bounds and provide services that are critically needed."

As Suffolk's policy setting group, City Council will play the most s'gnificant role in providing services such as water and sewer lines to outlying areas. Other key players include members of the Board of Zoning, the Planning Commission and the School Board which Godwin said

See GODWIN, page 3-B

Governor Godwin had the pleasure to accompany the renowned Elizabeth Taylor during an early Peanut Fest.

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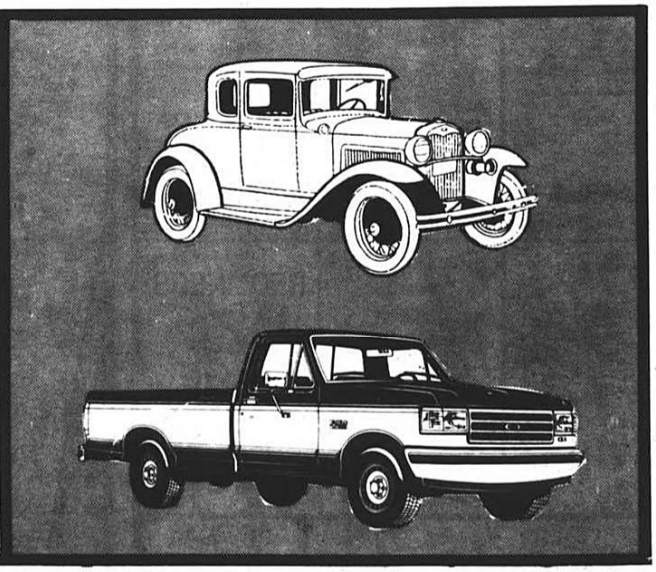

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Godwin

Continued from page 2-B

must continue to upgrade the educational system.

While city officials may determine Suffolk's fate, Godwin was quick to add that business and professional people are also vital leaders. "We have a large number of concerned citizens who are keenly concerned about the future and are trying to make it as good as possible," he said. "We ought to be happy we have that kind of leadership in the city. We take pride in what we have done, recognizing there are many new challenges still ahead of us."

The former governor has not hesitated to recognize and meet challenges in his career. He caught the political bug from his father who was a member of the Nansemond County Board of Supervisors and the Nansemond School Board. After fellow Puritans across the state urged him to seek office, Godwin entered politics in 1947 when he was elected to the House of Delegates. Godwin also served in the state senate from 1952 to 1962 when he was elected lieutenant governor.

In 1965, he received the Democratic nomination for governor without opposition and was elected that November. During his administration, Godwin became known as "Virginia's Education Governor" by focusing on improving education from kindergarten through graduate school. A major component of that initiative was the implementation of the state's community college system which offered two-year courses in occupational-technical and liberal arts at minimum tuition. State aid to kindergartens, summer schools and classes for the handicapped also provided more opportunities for Virginians.

However, those funds would not have been available if Godwin had not persuaded the General Assembly to enact a retail sales tax for public and higher education. It

See GODWIN, page 4-B

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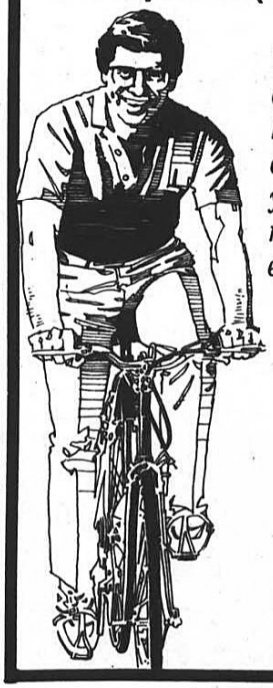

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Godwin

Continued from page 3-B

was the first new broad-based tax passed in Virginia in more than a century.

"The time was arriving when Virginia was ready to make a major move forward in education and public services if we could just get the finances to do that," Godwin said. "There's a time for all things, and it just happened to be the right time for Virginia to thrust forward."

Virginia also moved forward in industrial development. Godwin led the first foreign trade missions and worked to attract high caliber new industry to the state. He believed industrial development and education were the principal methods of continuing Virginia's progress.

"It was a continuing challenge every day," Godwin noted. "Particularly being governor gave you the opportunity to be directly involved in state policies. We did some things that Virginia had never done before."

In 1970, Godwin and his wife, Katherine returned to Suffolk where they built a home in Cedar Point. Godwin became a director of Standard Brands, Inc., Norfolk and Western Railway Company, Union Camp Corporation, Virginia Real Estate Investment Trust and Dan River, Inc. He also served on

See GODWIN, page 5-B

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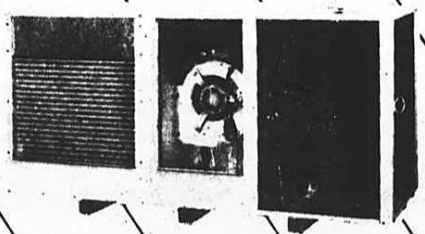

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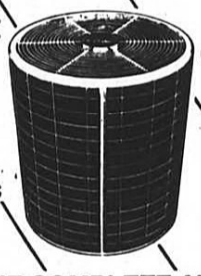

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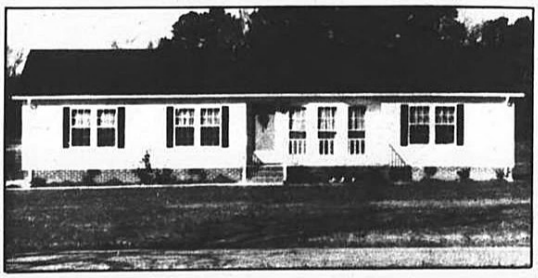

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Godwin

Continued form page 4-B

the board of directors of various other firms.

Although Godwin enjoyed his involvement with Virginia companies, he resigned those posts when he was elected governor again in 1973. He holds the distinction of being the first person twice elected to serve as Virginia's governor. Godwon also is the only person ever elected as governor of any state as a Democrat and as a Republican.

"When I left the governor's office in 1970, I never had any thought of seeking the governor's office again," he said. But several events conspired to make him change his mnind.

The popular lieutenant governor, J. Sergeant Reynolds died in 1971, leading to a transformation of the state's Democratic Party to liberal leadership. Also, Godwin said he could not support South Dakota senator George McGovern's Democratic bid for the presidency in 1972 and chaired Virginians for Nixon.

After Nixon's landslide victory, several state leaders encouraged Godwin to enter the gubernatorial race. "It was a difficult race, particularly switching parties," he noted, "but I was able to emerge from it as the winner."

Although Godwin had planned to run as an Independent, he decided to change parties. "I didn't feel I changed anything except the name of my party," he said. "I thought that I had the same opinions, convictions and philosophy that I had as a Democrat."

While his first term as governor was a time of growth, Godwin faced several crises during his second administration. The Arab oil embargo

See GODWIN, page 23-B

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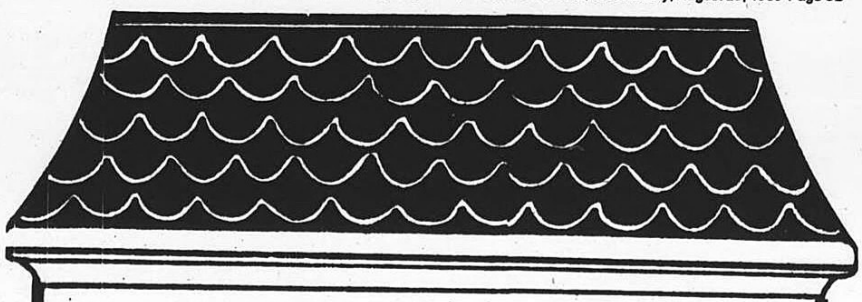

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Peanut Fest among top family festivals in Tidewater

By BETH OWNLEY
ASSISTANT EDITOR

In 1978, the Suffolk Chamber of Commerce decided the city should set aside an autumn weekend to celebrate the harvesting of its number one commodity -- peanuts.

Today, peanuts still reign during Peanut Fest, but the event encompasses much more than it did when it was known as Harvest Festival and held in downtown Suffolk. With the Suffolk Municipal Airport as its permanent home, the annual four-day celebration has evolved into one of the region's best family festivals. Last year, the festival drew approximately 100,000 people, and organizers are hoping that the 12th annual event will be another banner year.

"It just mushroomed," said Patsy Privott, administrative coordinator of Suffolk Festivals, Inc. which organizes the festival. "We are really being known now throughout the Tidewater area as well as through the state as being one of the finest family-oriented festivals."

That reputation comes from the festival's activities which guarantee something for nearly everyone. Favorite events include the Queen's Luncheon and fashion show during which the Peanut Fest queen and her court are coronated, the Shrimp Feast, the Peanut Fest parade through downtown Suffolk, the Prayer Breakfast and the Peanut Butter Sculpture contest. Other festival highlights include exhibitions, entertainment ranging from country and western music to classic rock, a tractor pull and racing pigs.

However, festival organizers constantly look for new activities to meet the interests of fest-goers. This year, Peanut Fest will offer a new Country Fair Tent featuring contribu-

See FEST, page 7-B

With Peanut Fest such a family-oriented festival, the annual event has drawn ever increasing crowds to Suffolk each October.

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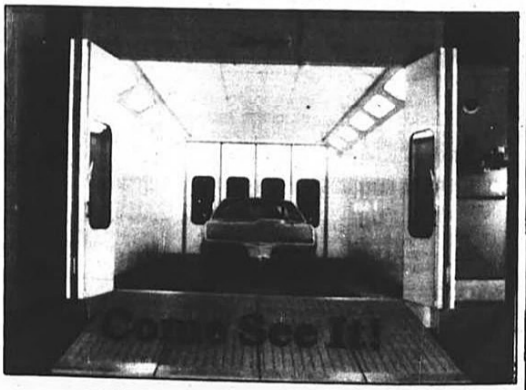

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Fest

Continued from page 6-B

tors' jams, jellies, pickles and other delicacies. Another tent will highlight the Suffolk Chamber of Commerce's Parade of Industry in which eight to 10 local industries will be recognized. The Suffolk Museum also will offer a collector's corner exhibit featuring local hobbyists.

Plus, organizers are trying to turn the festival into a weeklong celebration. Last year, the fest kicked off on Sunday with activities at Constant's Wharf. The same celebration will be offered again this year during "Sunday in the Park," with events such as an antique car show, a bike rodeo, arts and crafts and entertainment.

The actual Peanut Fest will begin on Thursday, Oct. 5 and run through Sunday, Oct. 8. However, the annual Shrimp Feast will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 4 in order to set aside Thursday as the opening day of the fest. Friday, which in recent years has been designated as Senior Day, also will be City Appreciation Day. At noon, Mayor Johnnie E. Mizelle and other city dignitaries and special guests will lead a procession. Former Suffolk First Citizens and the city's oldest resident will be honored during what Peanut Fest Chairman Harden Barnett calls a time for the city "to step up on a soapbox and tell the world about our resources."

Barnett wants Friday to be known as "locals day" when Suffolkians will be able to attend the festival without fighting the crowds who will arrive for the weekend. "We want to encourage locals to get out and enjoy the fest before it gets too crowded to enjoy," he said.

Along with crowds come traffic and parking problems.

See FEST, page 8-B

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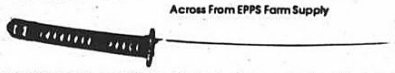
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Fest

Continued from page 7-B

Barnett noted that the site's parking facilities are limited to about 125,000 people which makes organizers think twice before booking big name entertainment acts. "To bring in an 'A' act and just max out our facilities and leave people on highways and have bad feelings doesn't do any good," he said.

Fest-goers are not the only ones frustrated by the parking situation. It's a long day for the parking staff who are all volunteers. However, a new exit has been added to ease congestion, and parking prices have risen to $5 to encourage carpooling. People also may purchase a week-long parking pass for $10 at local Sentry Food Marts.

Despite the absence of big name entertainment, Barnett believes that Peanut Fest still thrives and is unique among area festivals. "If you take the food and stage away from the Jubilee and other festivals, there wouldn't be much left except for the crowds," he said. "But Peanut Fest has tractor pulls, pig racing and arts and crafts."

However, three area radio stations are negotiating with several national performing acts to appear at Peanut Fest. Entertainers and other special events will be announced in late August or early Sep-

See FEST, page 9-B

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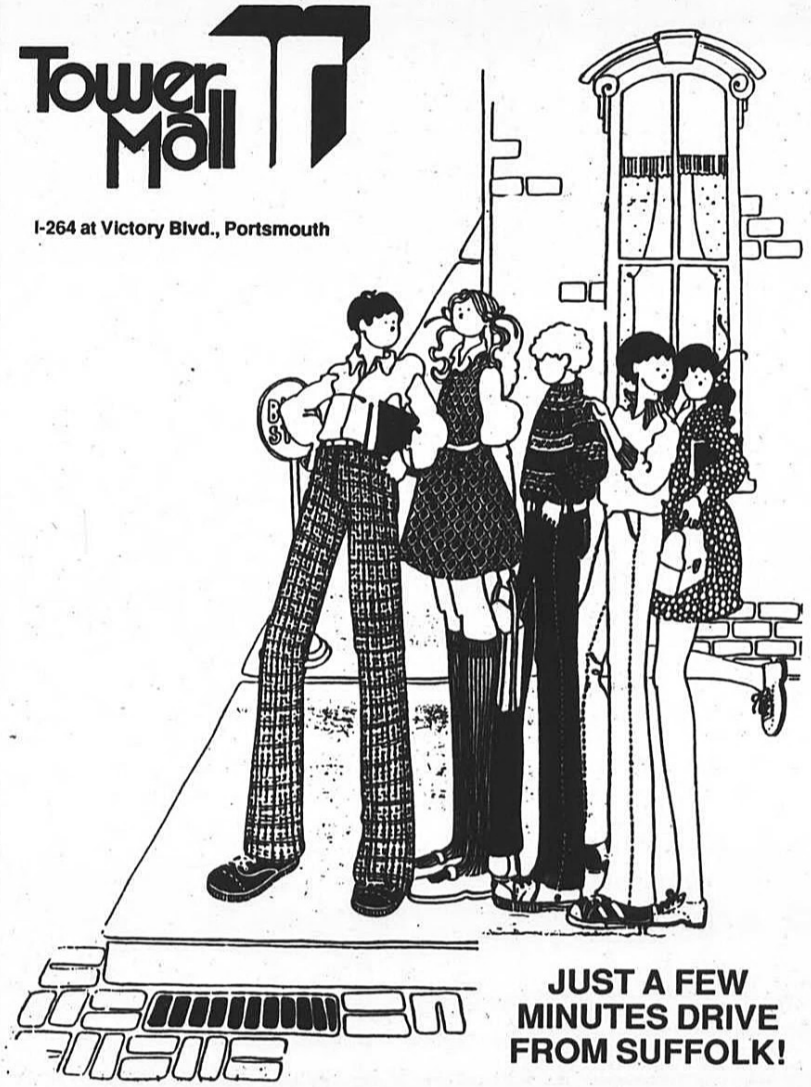

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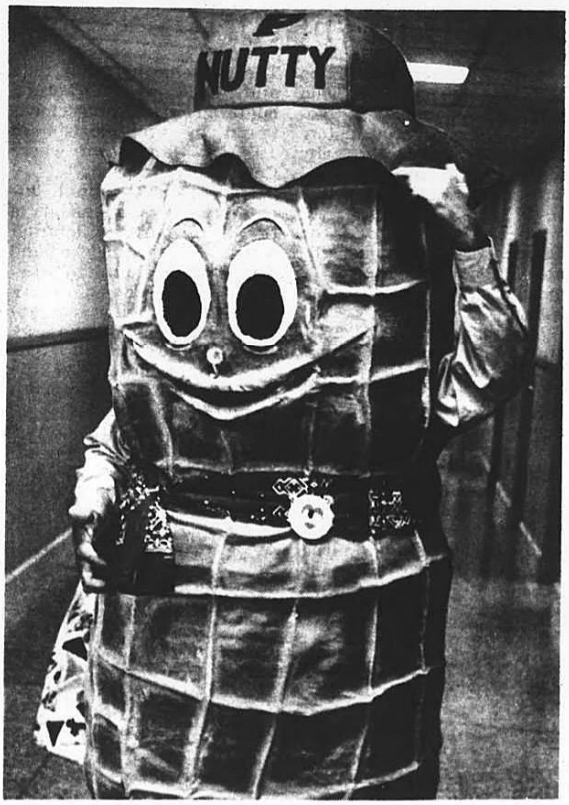

Mr. P. Nutty is the official mascot of the Peanut Fest in Suffolk.

Fest

Continued from 8-B

tember. Barnett noted that organizers are planning a special event which will "prove to be the cornerstone of this year's festival."

Festival organizers are the other cornerstones. Approximately 300 volunteers work with Suffolk Festivals to ensure that every facet of the fest is in place. Peanut Fest is a yearlong operations which begins the day after the previous festival ends.

Despite the long hours and the hard work, the festival gets more volunteers each year to work on the numerous committess. "We do try to put them into an area that they could at least get a touch of the festival flavor," Privott said. "When you put someone in one area, you have no idea that they could one day be a coordinator or chairman."

Privott attributed the willingness to help organize the celebration to volunteer spirit. "You either have it or you don't," she said. "If you did a profile on the entire executive committee, you'd probably find out that they're involved in most everything. People who do a good job are called upon to continue doing a good job. That's why it works."

Besides the volunteers, the media, businesses and city government join forces to plan and promote the festival. "If either one of those groups were to fall down, the fest wouldn't be possible," Barnett noted.

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Crooked Creek (Chuckatuck) has its place in history

By STEPHEN COWLES
COMMUNITY EDITOR

West of the Nansemond River is the village of Chuckatuck. The word means "crooked creek" and comes from the Nansemond Indians who lived by these waters.

The creek originates from the James River and flows past Eclipse, Crittenden, Hobson, and into the present village. The highway, Rt. 10, connects the core city of Suffolk, runs through Chuckatuck and into Isle of Wight County.

According to Kermit Hobbs and William Paquette, who wrote and compiled photographs for a pictorial history of Suffolk, one of the early settlements by the English colonists was at Chuckatuck in 1672.

When George Fox, the founder of the Quaker denomination visited the area, a meeting place was established.

Although the fires of 1837 and 1866 destroyed much of Suffolk's history, the records from the Chuckatuck Meeting House are still preserved and kept in Baltimore, Md.

Interestingly, the oldest known piece of dated pewter comes from a Chuckatuck resident who had a metal shop in this area. Carole Maguire writes in her Suffolk Journal Volume I that it was made by Joseph Copeland in 1675. The spoon has his name, date and the word Chuckatuck engraved on it. The object was found by archeologists in 1930 at Jamestown where Copeland had moved.

The Anglican church included Chuckatuck as one of the three parishes (church districts) to have a glebe (land owned by the church to benefit those in need). St. John's Episcopal Church was originally called Chuckatuck Church and built in 1643. The current church was built in 1755 (W.E. MacClenny gives 1752 as the date).

Incidently, the name change came about in 1845 when Anglican churches in America were renamed after saints.

A few years before the Civil War, Chuckatuck Male and

See CHUCKATUCK, page 11-B

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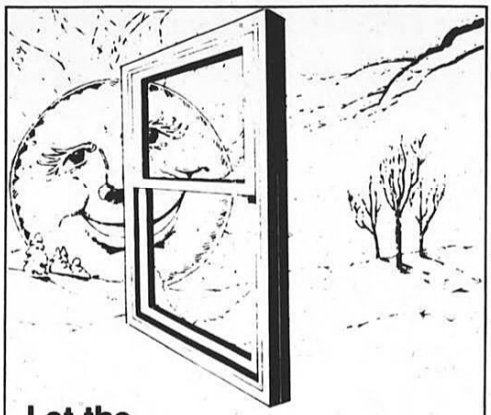

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Chuckatuck

Continued from page 10-B

Female Institute was founded - in 1855. Maguire records in her second volume of Suffolk history that it was changed for women only in 1857.

Frank Spady Jr., a native of Chuckatuck, said he can remember that in the 1920s the building, obviously quite old, was then called Black Hall and used for minstrel shows. To his recollection it burned in the 1930s.

As a side note, he mentioned that Meadowlot Lane, where his family used to live, was originally Meador's Lot and named after a family called Meador.

Hobbs and Paquette record that a young woman named Sally Corbell married General George C. Pickett. He led a charge in the Battle of Gettysburg. The two met when he was in charge of Confederate forces in Chuckatuck.

When her uncle, Dr. Corbell, was allowed to go through Union lines between the village and Petersburg, he took Sally with him to Gen. Pickett and they married. Some of their descendants are still living in Chuckatuck.

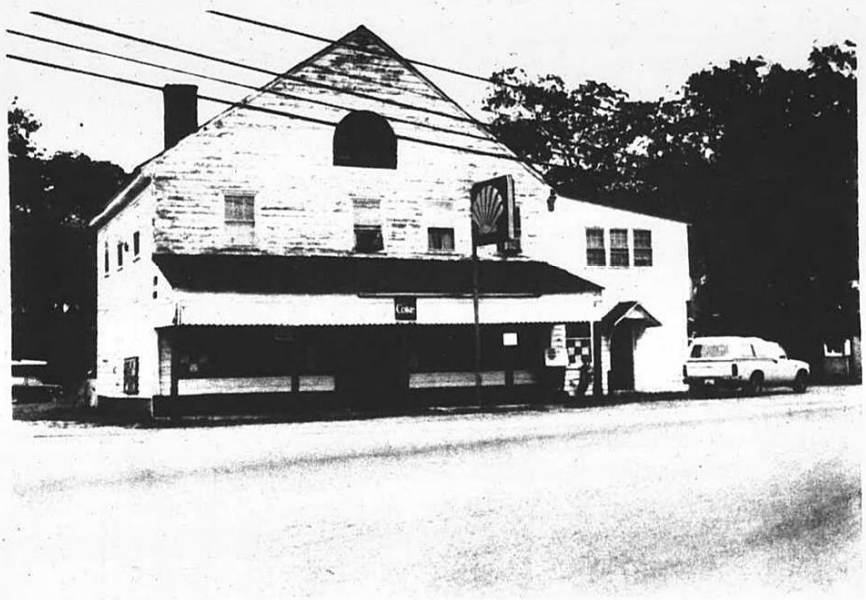
In the 19th century, Chuckatuck developed into a thriving village that included a grist mill, which is still standing and now used as a shop.

Chuckatuck High School, which is now Saunder's Supply, was built in 1921. The G.S. Gwaltney Store, located in the heart of the village's business district, was the post office until the 1970s.

Chuckatuck has produced a second person from Nansemond County to become a Virginia governor -- Mills E. Godwin. However, Godwin has the distinction of being a native of Chuckatuck. Richard Bennett was born in England and later came to settle in Driver. Godwin himself was born not too far from where Bennett is believed to have lived.

Godwin was Virginia governor from 1966-70. He was then a Democrat, but later changed to Republican and ran for a second term from 1974-78.

See CHUCKATUCK, page 12-B



The G.S. Gwaltney Store on Rt. 10 in Chuckatuck was the post office for the village until the early 1970s. G.S. Gwaltney bought the store in 1927.

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1A AC/Refrigeration	Sept 7	Oct. 26	T & TH	6:30-9:30	45 HRS.	50.00
1A Auto Body	Sept. 7	Oct. 26	T & TH	6:30-9:30	45 HRS.	40.00
1A Auto Mechanics	Sept. 7	Oct. 26	T & TH	6:30-9:30	45 HRS.	40.00
1A Bricklaying	Sept. 7	Oct. 26	T & TH	6:30-9:30	45 HRS.	40.00
1A Carpentry	Sept. 7	Oct. 26	T & TH	6:30-9:30	45 HRS.	50.00
1A Electricity	Sept. 7	Oct. 26	T & TH	6:30-9:30	45 HRS.	50.00
1A Electronics	Sept. 7	Oct. 26	T & TH	6:30-9:30	45 HRS.	40.00
1A Microcomputer Oper.	Sept. 7	Oct. 26	T & TH	6:30-9:30	45 HRS.	45.00
1A Refresher Typing	Sept. 7	Oct. 26	T & TH	6:30-9:30	45 HRS.	40.00
1A Welding	Sept. 7	Oct. 26	T & TH	6:30-9:30	45 HRS.	70.00
1A Word Processing I	Sept. 7	Oct. 26	T & TH	6:30-9:30	45 HRS.	45.00
1B Cake Decorating	Sept. 7	Oct. 19	TH	6:30-9:30	21 HRS.	22.00
1B Plant Propagation	Sept. 7	Oct. 19	TH	6:30-9:30	21 HRS.	32.00
1C Television Production	Sept. 7	Nov. 14	T & TH	6:30-9:30	60 HRS.	50.00
1D Geriatric Nurse's Aide	Sept. 7	Dec. 12	T & TH	6:30-9:30	81 HRS.	115.00
1E Accounting	Oct. 31	Dec. 19	T & TH	6:30-9:30	45 HRS.	40.00
1E AC/Refrigeration	Oct. 31	Dec. 19	T & TH	6:30-9:30	45 HRS.	50.00
1E Auto Body	Oct. 31	Dec. 19	T & TH	6:30-9:30	45 HRS.	40.00
1E Auto Mechanics	Oct. 31	Dec. 19	T & TH	6:30-9:30	45 HRS.	40.00
1E Bricklaying	Oct. 31	Dec. 19	T & TH	6:30-9:30	45 HRS.	40.00
1E Carpentry	Oct. 31	Dec. 19	T & TH	6:30-9:30	45 HRS.	50.00
1E D Base-III	Oct. 31	Dec. 19	T & TH	6:30-9:30	45 HRS.	45.00
1E Electricity	Oct. 31	Dec. 19	T & TH	6:30-9:30	45 HRS.	50.00
1E Electronics	Oct. 31	Dec. 19	T & TH	6:30-9:30	45 HRS.	40.00
1E Refresher Typing	Oct. 31	Dec. 19	T & TH	6:30-9:30	45 HRS.	40.00
1E Welding	Oct. 31	Dec. 19	T & TH	6:30-9:30	45 HRS.	70.00
1E Word Processing I/II	Oct. 31	Dec. 19	T & TH	6:30-9:30	45 HRS.	45.00
1F Floral Design	Sep. 12	Oct. 24	T	6:30-9:30	21 HRS.	57.00
1G Computers for Farmers	Nov. 30	Jan. 30	T & TH	6:30-9:30	45 HRS.	45.00

- The Center will be open on Tuesday, September 5th from 6:30 until 9:30 p.m. for registraton only.
- The Center will be closed for adult classes on November 23, 1989 - Thanksgiving Day.
- Classes listed above will be offered subject to minimum enrollment requirements.
- Classes not listed here can be arranged contingent upon administrative approval and the availability of an instructor.
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Chuckatuck

Continued from page 11-B

The business facet of the village today consists of churches, black and white population, a post office, an ever-ready volunteer fire department, stores, and a satellite library.

Robert C. Hargrove, who has a home in Sandy Bottom, considers himself a Chuckatuck resident. This section is located on Crittenden Road just as you turn off King's Highway. Hargrove is a member, officer and deacon of Diamond Grove Baptist Church.

Retired from the Norfolk Naval Shipyard, he's now a general contractor who does home improvements and general building. He noted that since the merger, his area got street lights provided by the city, and a speed limit established on Crittenden Road. But since the merger, he said, the residential growth has been limited because of the septic codes.

Hargrove's opinion about the merger is "You can't stand against progress."

Robert C. Hargrove, general contractor, is also a member and deacon of Diamond Grove Baptist Church in the Sandy Creek section of Chuckatuck.

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Resident calls Hobson "garden spot of the world"

By STEPHEN COWLES
COMMUNITY EDITOR

As you travel south from Bridge Road (Rt. 17) on Crittenden Road, you're soon in the community of Hobson.

Like its neighboring villages of Crittenden and Eclipse, Hobson's people have made their living from the water by oystering and marine railways. Naturally, farming is another livelihood for those in Hobson.

In May of 1973, the late Charles Gray Adams Jr. and others in their Sunday School Class at Ebenezer United Methodist Church compiled a history and guide of Hobson, Crittenden and Eclipse.

In that booklet, the origin of Hobson is said to be named for Commander Richard Pearson Hobson who served in the Spanish-American War.

Adams' wife, Mrs. Kathryn M. Adams, lives on Moore's Point Road in Sleepy Lake West. He was one of the people (the others were W.F. Magann, J.C. Mobley, and G.T. Wrenn Jr.) responsible for the development of Sleepy Lake and Sleepy Lake West.

She describes Hobson as

See HOBSON, page 14-B

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Hobson

Continued from page 13-B

"the garden spot of the world." A native of Isle of Wight County (her husband was a Hobson native), she has lived here for most of her married life.

For 15 years, Mrs. Adams managed a grocery and hardware store on the corner of Moore's Point and Crittenden roads. Mrs. Ethel Barcalow operated the adjoining post office, which closed in 1972. The grocery also had to close. Big supermarkets were being created that drew away business.

The white-bricked hasn't been used in many years, is still standing.

Mrs. Adams said she didn't approve of the 1974 merger. "But since then I have decided it's a good thing because of living conditions that

See HOBSON, page 22-B

Mrs. kathryn M. Adams, wife of the late Charles G. Adams, considers Hobson "the garden spot of the world." Her husband was one of the people responsible for the Sleepy Lake and Sleepy Lake West developments on Chuckatuck Creek.

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Driver used to be named Persimmon Tree Orchard

Arthur's Store in Driver opened in 1925, across the street from its current location. It served as both a filling station and post office. Spanky (the dog) looks up toward Edward Jones (back to camera) as he talks fishing with Luther Willie.

By STEPHEN COWLES
COMMUNITY EDITOR

Long before Driver got its name from a grocery store owner in that area, which has been rich in supplying produce, it was named "Persimmon Tree Orchard."

Driver is situated south of Bridge Road and west of the Nansemond River. King's Highway comes in from the west and Nansemond Parkway cuts through to the north and east toward Portsmouth.

The area has the distinction of having one of two state governors coming from Nansemond County (Mills E. Godwin of Chuckatuck is the second.): Major General Richard Bennett.

In Carole Maguire's first volume of Suffolk Journal, she has written that he served from 1652 to 1655. Bennett had come to America in 1635 and had been given 2,000 acres of land on the Nansemond River. He was accompanied by a large group of people wanting to settle in the New World.

Because of conflicts with religion and politics, many, including Bennett, left the area and settled to what has become Annapolis, Md. He later went to England for a short time, and returned to govern the territory of Virginia.

After his term, he met with the Quaker founder, George Fox, and converted to that denomination. Bennett died in 1674. The creek, road and harbor are named after him.

A glebe is a parcel of church land. The benefits of cultivat-

See DRIVER, page 16-B

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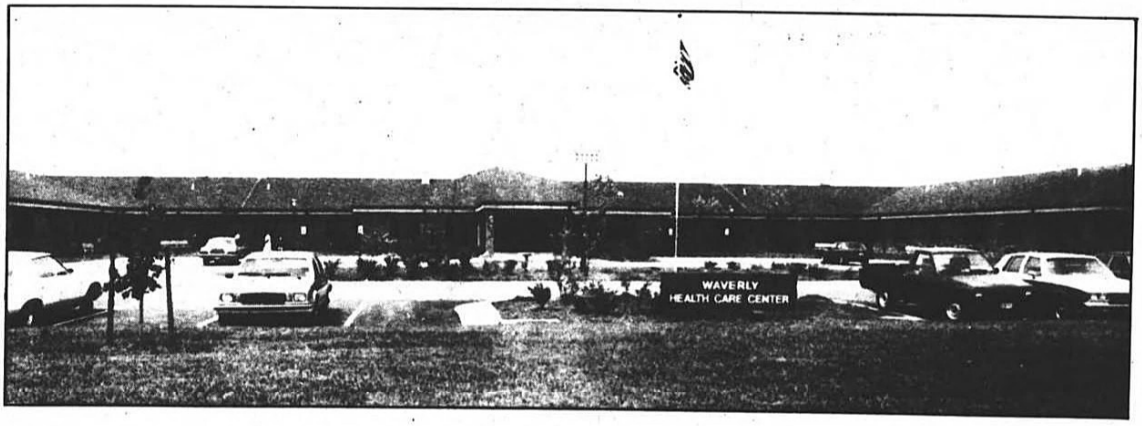

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Driver

Continued from page 15-B

ing the land are used for the church and charity. Nansemond County was divided into three parishes (church districts) in 1642-43. MacClenny noted that the exact spot for the first Glebe church in Driver has been lost, but a second (and present) was constructed in 1740. The land where the church stands was donated by Richard Bennett.

One Sunday in 1775, the Rev. John Agnew was ordered to leave by vestryman William Cowper tunder the threat of force. Agnew vehemently opposed the patriots' cause.

Driver continues to figure in American Colonial history. In January 1781, Benedict Arnold, coming back from a raid in Richmond, crossed the Nansemond River at Sleepy Hole Ferry. Lord Cornwallis and his army went through the same area in July of that year. A marker at the end of Kings Highway and Nansemond Parkway commemorates those events.

Shady Lawn, now belonging to James and Betty Perkinson, is located on Bennett's Pasture Road. It was built in 1735 and belonged to the Taylor Family. During the Civil War, family members put holes in the boats of Union soldiers. The house has since undergone extensive renovations.

The Nansemond militia was camped in the area before the British set fire to Suffolk in 1779. Tony Pugh, a free Black man, operated a tavern and inn in Driver.

John Yeates High School is named after John Yeates who gave the money to establish two free schools in 1731.

The house located across from Yeates High School once belonged to a family that put holes in the boats of Yankees during the Civil War. In the mid-1920s, it was owned by E. Jordan Taylor who was an attorney and politician. His wife, Elkanah East Taylor, was a noted poet.

After the war, E.J. Driver operated a sizeable country store. The area was since named for him.

Berea Congregational Christian Church was established before the Civil War. In 1913, Secretary of State William Jennings Bryan, who would later gain dubious notoriety in the Scopes Trial of the early 20s, spoke to residents in a field across from this church.

Another site in Driver worth noting is the Obici House, estate of Amedeo Obici of Planters Peanuts fame. For those new to the area, this place is located at the end of Sleepy Hole Road located off Bennett's Pasture Road.

Judge William Wellington Jones was court attorney when discussions began about merging Nansemond County and Suffolk. He said these talks started as early as the 1960s.

Judge Jones was involved in legal aspects of the merger. He said he hadn't observed that Driver is isolated from the rest of the city. The biggest changes he said he's witnessed has been the growth. "On the whole I think it's been successful," he said.

Judge William Wellington Jones was court attorney when discussions began about merging Nansemond County and Suffolk. He said these talks started as early as the 1960s.

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Holland noted as birthplace of Ruritan; was prosperous town

By STEPHEN COWLES
COMMUNITY EDITOR

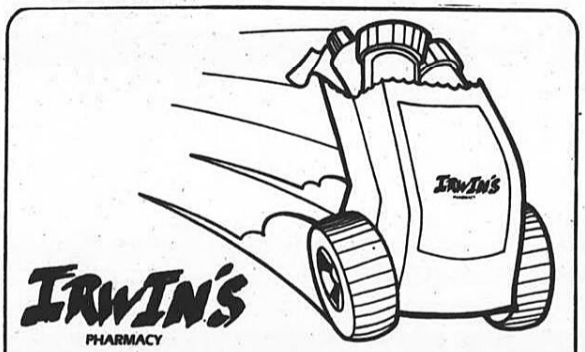
People driving through Holland might wonder how this section in the western part of Suffolk came to be named. Was it modeled after that famed land of tulips and windmills? No, indeed. The closest relation that Holland has to the Netherlands is the name of the Dutch Market on South Quay Road.

In the pictoral history of Suffolk, Hobbs and Paquette state: "A Feb. 6, 1621 supply ship for the Jamestown colony brought London Company promoter Gabriel Holland to Virginia. One of his sons, John, received a land patent for paying passage for Englishmen to settle in Hampton Roads. John Holland's descendants are believed to be the ones who settled Holland's Corner in Nansemond County. By 1704 the Holland family had prospered and secured considerably more land in the county."

According to W.E. MacClenny, the town took its name from Zachary T. Holland who had opened a store that became quite profitable. Like other towns, the store served as a meeting place to get the mail. Holland used to travel to the Carrsville post office and bring it as a central pickup.

Edith Leach Jones had written a local history around

See HOLLAND, page 18-B



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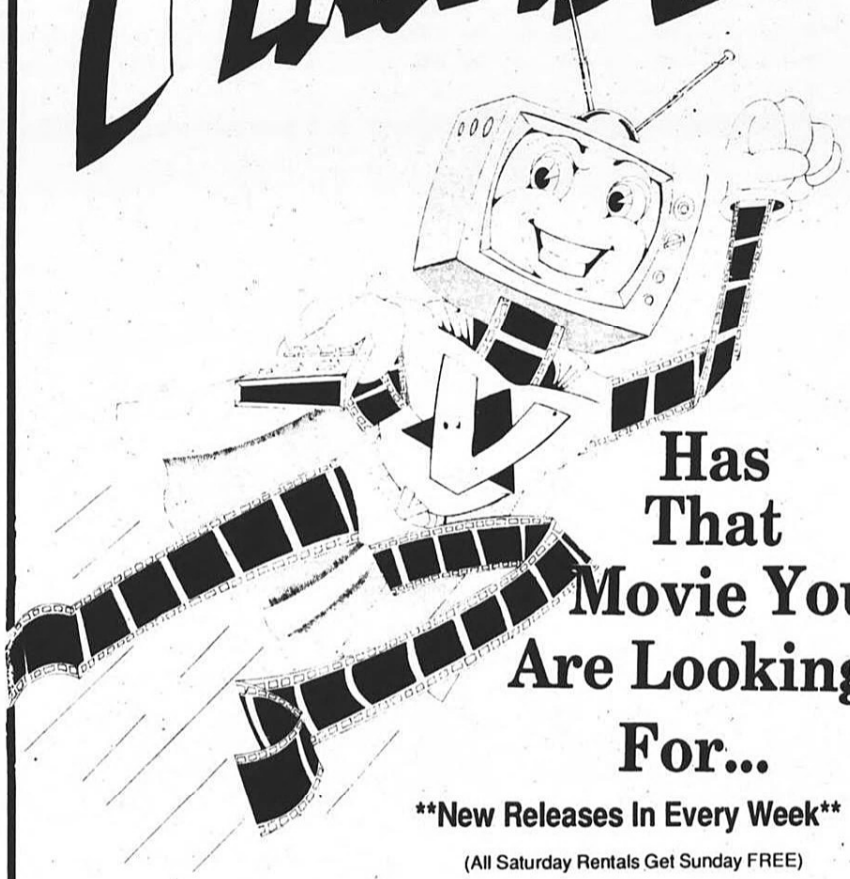

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Holland

Continued from page 17-B

1940. She states that the area was previously known as Holland's Corner because of the generations of the Holland family that lived there. Jones' history records that the Atlantic and Danville Railroad was built in Holland in 1888. The town took its name about this time.

This monument commemorates the foundation of Ruritan National, which was begun May 21, 1928, in Holland. In the background is Holland Elementary School.

Highway 58 connects the core city of Suffolk with this town and continues westward. A bypass leads around the business district and goes through the South Quay region and river which makes up part of the border between Suffolk and Southampton County.

Not too long before the war, the peanut became utilized and developed into the cash crop that it remains.

But during the Civil War, said Hobbs and Paquette, Holland was virtually abandoned when residents crossed the Blackwater River after the Union had taken Suffolk in 1862.

Jones stated that the town didn't become incorporated until 15 years after its existence. I.A. Luke was the first mayor.

On the first day of January 1910, a fire broke out that destroyed all but two of the numerous businesses that had developed. One-half of the homes were also lost to the flames.

During the reconstruction, the agricultural station was built in 1914. Hobbs and Paquette have noted that three people -- Taylor Batten, Dr. Preston Reid and H.M. Clark -- supervised this into a facility still dedicated to help farmers in the most advanced agricultural techniques available.

Holland Grade School was built in 1922 for the black population. Holland Public School was made for the white children.

Perhaps Holland's claim to fame is being the birthplace of the Ruritan Club. This now international organization

See HOLLAND, page 19-B

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Holland

Continued from page 18-B

began with 33 men who met April 16, 1928. The purpose was to unite the agricultural and business communities. On May 21, Ruritan was born with 35 charter members. Carole Maguire states in her Suffolk Journal Vol. I that J.J. "Jack" Maguire and Tom V. Downing are credited as the two who put the idea in motion. Taylor Batten was its first president.

Maguire added that the club got its name from Daisy Nurney, a reporter renowned for her writing abilities. The word combines two words meaning rural and urban (Perhaps the suffix -itan in metropolitan?).

Sixty-one years later, the club has expanded to over 39,000 members.

A native and life-long resident, Bobby Jones, now lives in a house on South Quay Road across from the place he was born. He said his family can trace its origins to Colonial times.

For many years, Jones operated the aforementioned Dutch Market. At one time his father, J.T. Jones, and W.J. Holland had formed and operated Holland-Jones Corp. Later this became the Dutch Market.

Jones said that the business district "was much more lively before World War II." Even before the 1974 merger, people started taking advantage of the new growth and improved transportation, and moved to other cities.

See HOLLAND, page 22-B

The business district of Holland consists chiefly of a few shops, offices and the satellite library serving Holland and Holy Neck.

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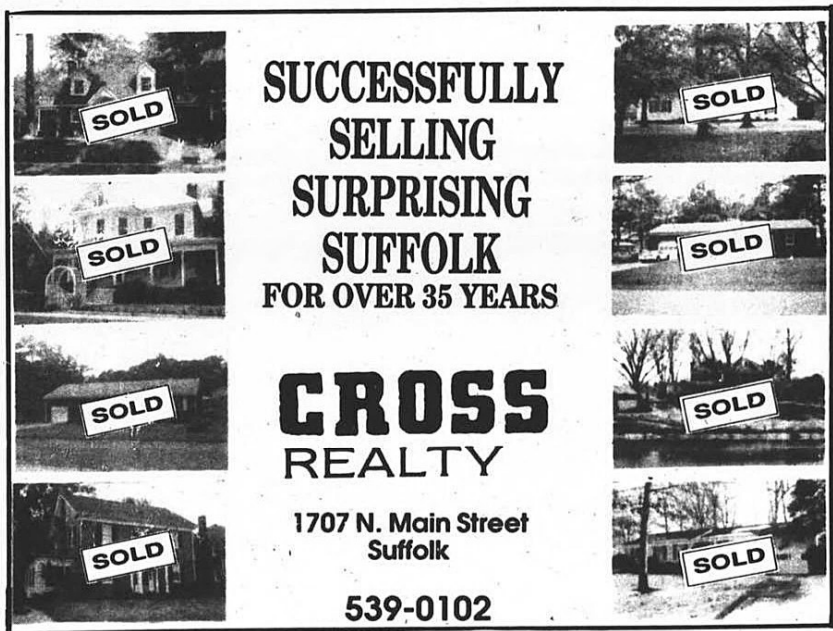

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Crittenden named for community's first postmaster

The Crittenden, Eclipse and Hobson Community Hall was once the Crittenden School for junior high school students at the turn of the century. The school, which closed in 1942, was given to the C.E. & H. Ruritan Club and has been used since by the three communities for civic and social functions.

By STEPHEN COWLES
COMMUNITY EDITOR

In nearly any village the post office is the center for its citizens. Long before daily newspapers, radio, or television, people have stopped there to exchange the latest news and gossip.

In fact, Crittenden got its name from the village's first postmaster, Capt. James H. Crittenden.

Crittenden is located in the northern part of the city. You cross over the Mills Godwin Bridge and continue on Bridge Road (Rt. 17). This highway leads through Crittenden and continues to another bridge over the Chuckatuck Creek. On the opposite side is Isle of Wight County.

W.E. MacClenny's history of Nansemond County recounts that the settlement began around 1873. Several plots of land were sold from one large tract. Capt. Crittenden became the first postmaster when it became a post village in 1879. The mail came from Chuckatuck three times a week.

Hobbs and Paquette's pictorial history of Suffolk states that Capt. Crittenden had built the store/post office on piles of oyster shells.

The marine railway and oystering industry, for which Crittenden and Eclipse have come to be renown, began soon after this time.

By the turn of the century, there were over 200 oyster boats, said Hobbs and Paquette, that criss-crossed and combed the waters for commerce and oysters.

In 1973, the late Minnie Moger Corson published her reminiscings of the Crittenden and Eclipse villages. She wrote that the Johnson's Railway was in operation before her father came to Crittenden in 1894.

It was begun by Capt. Lipp Johnson. Boats of all sizes were hauled out and repaired. Further, the company also built boats.

Incidently, members of the Crusader Class of Ebenezer United Methodist Church, compiled a history and guide of the region. In it, they wrote that "the historic battle of the Merrimac and the Monitor was fought within sight and sound of Crittenden village. A longtime resident of the community, a Mr. J.F. Higgins, lost a leg during this naval encounter.

One of Crittenden's landmarks that still stands is Crittenden School (now known as the C.E. & H. Community Hall). From 1908-1942, said Hobbs and Paquette, students attended school through the junior high level. They went to either Chuckatuck High School or Newport News to complete their formal education.

In her rememberances of the region, the late Corson wrote that students had to bring 10 cents to pay for the coal used in the pot bellied stoves.

About Eclipse

The late Charles Gray Adams Jr. was one of the people at Ebenezer United Methodist who helped write the history and guide to Crittenden and Eclipse. He also wrote the following about Eclipse's early history:

"The village of Eclipse was founded in the mid-1600s about 40 years after Jamestown. It was just an isolated fishing and oystering village. It didn't become famous for oysters until after the Civil War. That's when the Northerners with their finances came down and developed the oyster industry."

He also wrote that the Gray, Lewis, Moore, and Adams families had been in this area prior to that war. Hobbs and Paquette have noted that Adams believes the Gray family had a land grant from the King of England for the

See ECLIPSE, page 22-B

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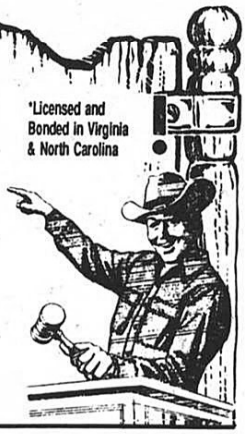

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Mrs. R.L. (Maude) Moger of Steeple Drive, said the population in Crittenden grew to such a point that some wanted a post office of their own. Eclipse became the name of that community.

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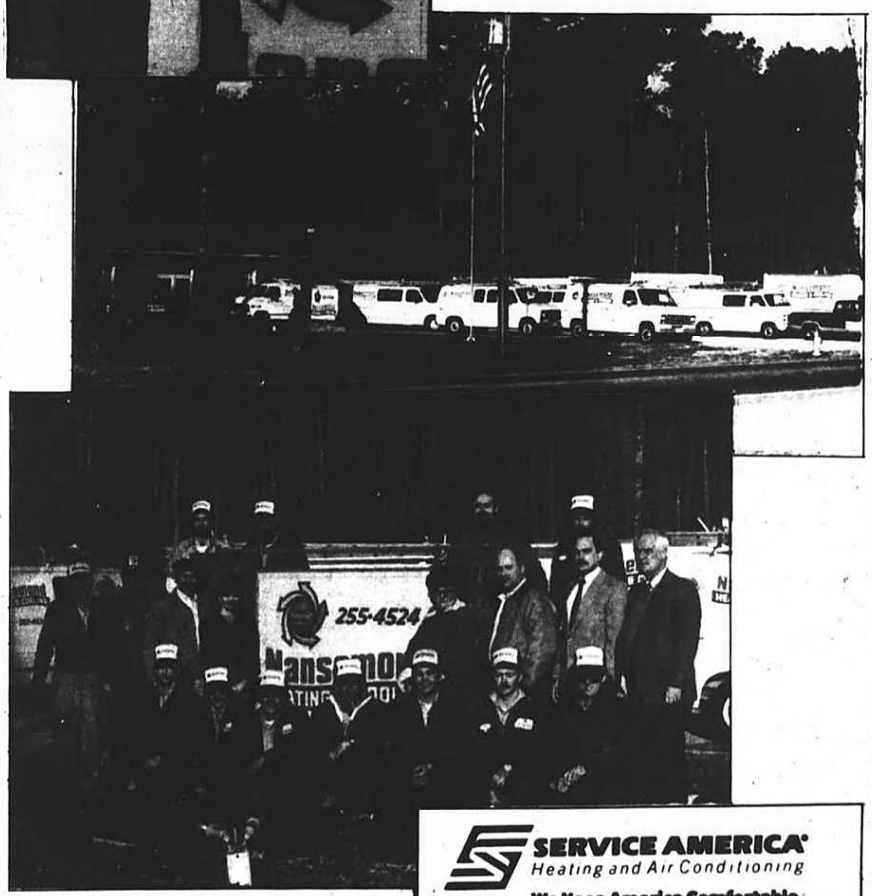

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Eclipse

Continued from page 20-B

area between Chuckatuck Creek and Nansemond Highway.

However, wrote Adams, there's no way to authenticate this claim because of the 1860 burning of the Courthouse and records in Suffolk.

Mrs. R.L. (Maude) Moger of Steeple Drive, sister of the late Minnie Corson, said the population in that section of Suffolk grew to such a point that they wanted a post office of their own.

She said an employee of S.Q. Bunkley's store looked up and saw the word Eclipse on a box of overalls. That name was submitted and it stuck. The post office was set up at the store.

Adams's wife said the name came about when someone saw the word on the bottom of an overhanging lattern.

However, Hobbs and Paquette state that another post office was needed for that area in 1910. "Five names were sent to the government for consideration and Eclipse was chosen because it was different."

As one might expect, the town received some notoriety during the solar eclipse that took place March 7, 1970.

Like Crittenden and Hobson, the people of Eclipse have made their living from the river. Mrs. Moger said that many men were also toll collectors for the local bridges.

A native of Lawrence County, Mrs. Moger has lived in the region for 46 years. At one time she managed the grocery store located across the Tasty Freeze on Bridge Road. She closed the store after her husband died. Now, Mrs. Moger volunteers her time at Nansemond Convalescent Center.

Asked for her opinion about the 1974 merger between Suffolk and Nansemond County, Mrs. Moger said, "We don't see a whole lot of difference, except an increase in taxes." She said that the Crittenden and Eclipse areas already had street lights (In fact, Mrs. Moger added, she was one of the solicitors to obtain them.) and trash collection.

Further, the area has the community hall, owned by the C.E. & H. Ruritan Club, Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts, Little League, a swimming pool, a country club (Cedar Point), the North Suffolk Rotary Club, the Junto Woman's Club, and its own annual Fourth of July celebration. "All in all," said Mrs. Moger, "the people still consider they live in the villages of Crittenden and Eclipse."

Hobson

Continued from page 14-B

were improved." She cited garbage pickup and the water and road system as examples.

Speaking again about the merger, Adams said that many in Crittenden and Hobson "feel a little isolated from the city, but it's peaceful." She noted that more people are moving here to get away from the rat race of city life.

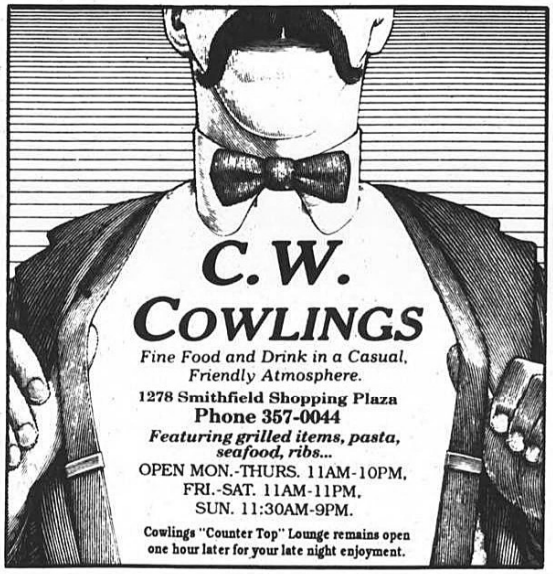
Holland

Continued from page 19-B

Nevertheless, Holland maintained a good business.

The opposition to the 1974 merger, he said, stemmed from those who feared local control would be lost. Which, he agrees, has happened to a certain extent. For example, "we used to have the streets swept every Sunday morning, and the alley ways were maintained by the town."

Jones said he felt that sewage is now needed in the area. Septic tanks are still being used. However, he did credit Councilman Enoch Copeland for working to obtain the sewage lines.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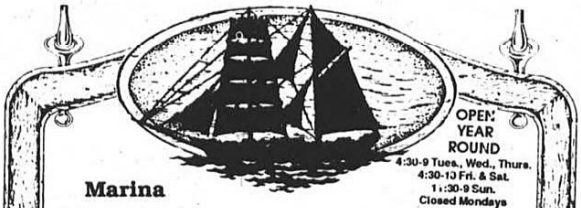
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Godwin

Continued from page 5-B

in late 1973 depressed the state's economy and revenues. To keep the budget balanced, Godwin was forced to cut $200 million out of the 1974 budget. Other problems involved gasoline, natural gas and fuel oil shortages, ten major floods and the most serious drought in half a century.

However, Godwin continued to press the state forward. He obtained approval from the General Assembly in 1977 for a referendum on a $125 million General Obligation Bond Program, the majority of which was earmarked for education and corrections. Voters overwhelmingly approved the referendum.

"Progress is inevitable," he noted. "But let's control progress in a sound manner and particularly in a sound fiscal manner."

Despite living in Richmond for eight years, Godwin still maintained close ties to Suffolk. However, he emphasized that he was never biased toward or against the city. "Nothing should be prejudiced against Suffolk because I happened to be governor. At the same time, I didn't feel it was appropriate to go too far in favoring the home area."

An example of that occurred doing the development of the community college system when several people pressured him to organize a Suffolk campus. However, land from Frederick College was donated to the State Board of Community Colleges, resulting in the Frederick Campus of Tidewater Community College. That led to the establishment of Paul D. Camp Community College in Franklin with a satellite facility in Suffolk.

After Godwin's second term ended in 1978, he was approached about running for the U.S. Senate. However, he wanted to become involved in Virginia firms and also did not want to live in the Washington, D.C. area. Moreover, he was not interested in becoming involved in national politics.

"There's something about

See GODWIN, page 27-B

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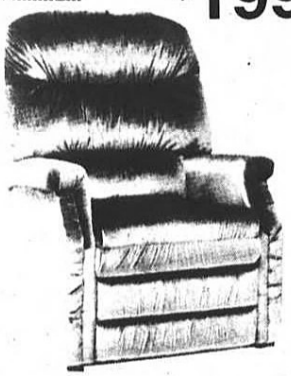

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Whaleyville grew and prospered because of lumber

By STEPHEN COWLES
COMMUNITY EDITOR

In one sense, Whaleyville has grown like trees --- slow, but steady and strong. In fact, the town's development stems from people who utilized the plentiful amount of potential lumber in the region.

Kermit Hobbs and William A. Paquette's pictorial history of Suffolk states that the Whaleyville area was already being developed as early as 1847 for both timber and farming.

The late Mrs. Henry Savage, a resident of Whaleyville, had compiled a history of the place. She wrote that Seth M. Whaley had bought a farm in December 1877. He also made a sawmill that was later sold to the Jackson Brothers Company from Maryland.

Savage recounts that the company had bought land from Caleb Savage in 1880. W.E. MacClenny's "Outline History of Nansemond County" states that the company built a "large modern sawmill" in 1884.

Mr. and Mrs. F.O. Clarke have lived in the same house near the business section of Whaleyville since they married in the early 1930s.

Savage has written that it was Whaley who the town was named after. He established a Methodist church in 1884 because many of those who came from Maryland were of that denomination. This became the Methodist Episcopal Church. Later it was changed to the Whaleyville United Methodist Church.

The town already had a Baptist church, established in 1833 by the Rev. John Harrell, and is located on Great Fork Road.

According to Hobbs and Paquette, the lumber company continued to thrive. The business used a railroad to ship the product to the Nansemond Wharf in Suffolk.

An improved railroad was built in 1887-88 by the Norfolk and Carolina Railroad, which caused the town to prosper further. Part of this wealth is found in the company commissary that was built.

Two other examples of the town's growth are the Bank of Whaleyville, established in March of 1907, and a school built in 1910.

In their combined recollections of Whaleyville, Mr. and Mrs. F.O. Clarke have observed that even since the 1974 merger the town has "grown a little -- but not much."

Both are 84-years-old, and have lived in the same house near the business section of town since they married in the early 1930s. This also was the house she lived in when her family came from Gates, N.C.

See WHALEYVILLE, page 25-B

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Summer activities are underway even as we prepare to move exhibits into the new Chesapeake Bay Gallery. Open Sept. 24, 1989. Come and browse among the figure-heads and model ships in the Great Hall. Trace the development of small craft design from dugout canoes and Norse fishing vessels to Venetian gondolas and our own Hampton One. See nautical wood carving take shape as a craftsman practices his art. And, come for August Crabtree's slide presentation and personal tour of the Crabtree Collection of Miniature Ships every Sun. 2 p.m.

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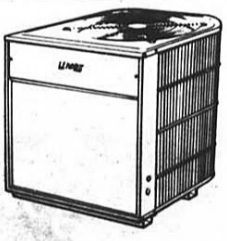

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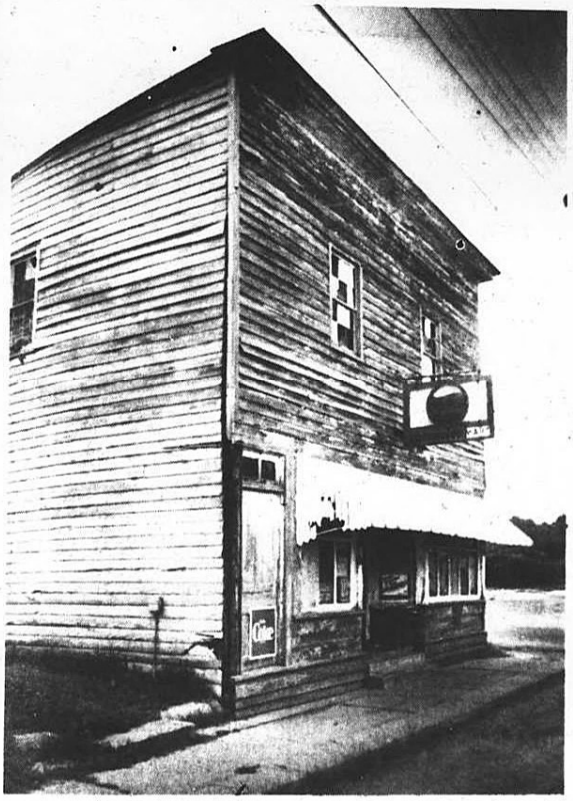

The general store

The old general store on Whaleyville Blvd, known today as Forehand's Mart, has been a part of Whaleyville since 1906.

Whaleyville

Continued from page 24-B

Mrs. Clarke is a native of Pinetown, N.C. Her family came here when she was 10-years old. Her father was a doctor. She described her father as one of those doctors who didn't press for payment when he knew his patients couldn't afford it.

Mr. Clarke has studied American Civil War history and said that her grandfather was a surgeon who once served in the Confederate Army under J.E.B. Stuart.

As a little girl she witnessed a parade of Ku Klux Klansmen. Thinking back to that time, Mrs. Clarke remembered the only sounds were the shuffling feet as the white-hooded KKK marched down the main road.

Because of diminishing

See WHALEYVILLE, page 26-B

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Whaleyville

Continued from page 25-B

supply, the renown lumber mill closed in 1919 and went to Fayetteville, N.C. Because many in the area were employed at the mill, they followed the company.

Hobbs and Paquette said that the mill's manager, G.B. Robertson, left the plant's bricks. From these were built a school for the blacks of the area.

A native of Dinwiddie County, Mr. Clarke came to Whaleyville in 1924. He said the first paved roads were made around 1927-28. Before that time the roads were, what he called, 'so mirey."

He was a teacher and athletic coach for eight years at Whaleyville High School before he went to work in peanut processing. Mr. Clarke worked for the Farmer's Nut Co. until his retirement in 1970.

Mrs. Clarke taught for six years in Southampton County. After marriage, she later raised a family (they have two sons and grandchildren) and would substitute teach.

Regarding the Suffolk and Nansemond County merger, Mr. Clarke said he thought it was a good idea at the time because it 'seemed to be a progressive step." For example, it would prevent a duplication of managing officers. "Of course, taxes were increased," he said.

Whaleyville already had trash collection, water and street lights. So Suffolk had not, in his estimation, added anything the town didn't already possess. Now, he said, "most wish they had never done it."

In Mrs. Dora C. Outland's words, "the merger didn't make a lot of difference --- not to me."

Mrs. Dora C. Outland's father had a farm on Little Fork Road. When she married, her husband's farm was on Spivey Run Rd.

The widening of the roads was one of the few things she could recall that came out of the merger.

Mrs. Outland also said she knew of the KKK, but they didn't bother her in anyway.

Her husband, the late James C.T. Outland, was a farmer. They lived with their two children on a farm on Spivey Run Road.

She is the daughter of the late Jedidiah Copeland and Suzie Margaret Porter Copeland. Mrs. Copeland's father was also a farmer. He grew peanuts, corn, soybean, wheat, and raised hogs and cattle. The farm was located on Little Fork Road.

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Godwin

Continued from page 23-B

being governor of Virginia that's a very high honor," Godwin noted. "It's been referred to as no higher honor."

Godwin's 30 years in politics have won him many accolades, especially from his colleagues. Suffolk Delegate J. Samuel Glasscock called Godwin a man of integrity who is truly interested in Virginia.

"I admire his absolute devotion to Virginia and what he felt was good for her," Glasscock said. "I have never seen an instance when he put his interests above what was good for Virginia."

Glasscock practiced law with Godwin from 1959 until 1966 and noted that the former governor was very generous. Although they are members of different political parties, Glasscock said the two have an unusual relationship. "Yet I have this absolutely enormous respect for him."

Former U.S. Senator William Spong described Godwin as a "very forceful person with the attribute of exercising leadership with both oratorical and political skills." Spong, who served in the General Assembly with Godwin and is now the interim president of Old Dominion University, added that Godwin was a strong governor because of those traits.

"He made his views known and acted on them," Spong said.

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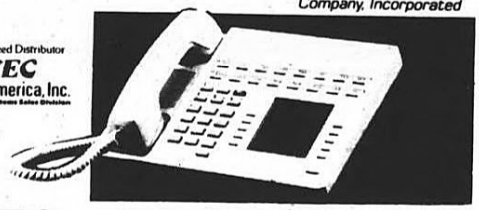

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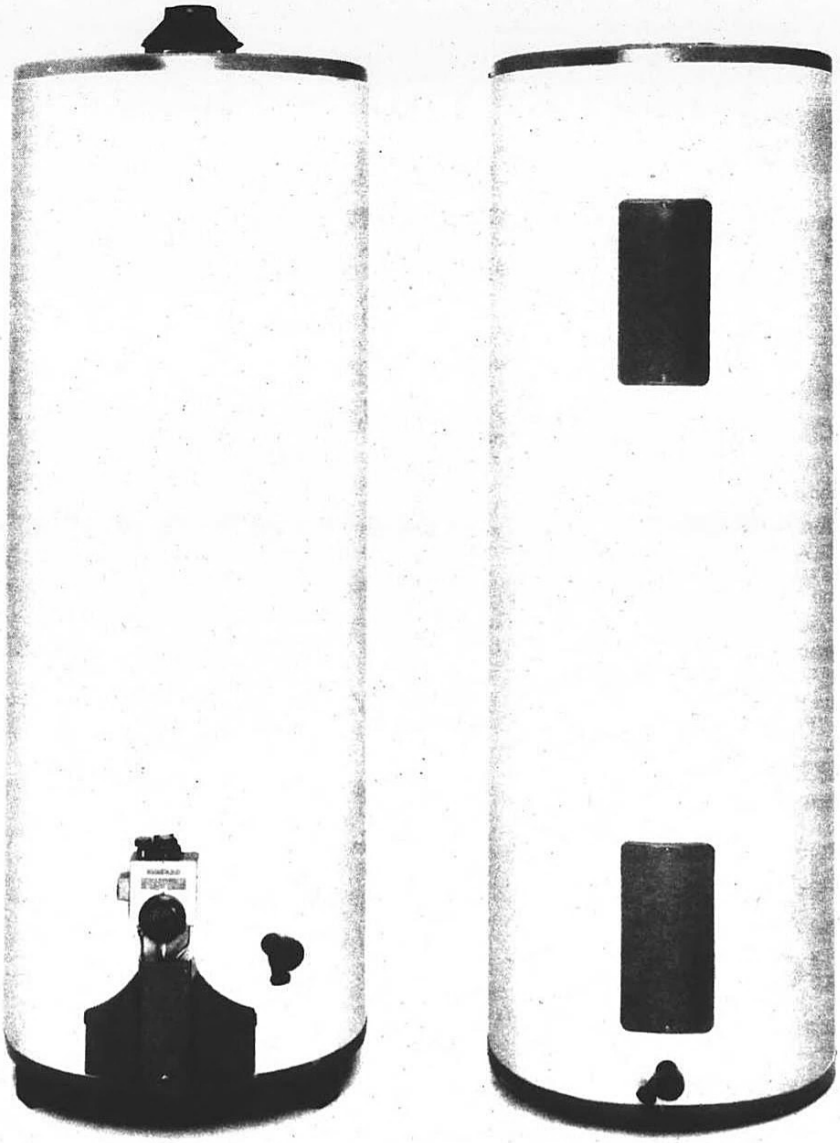

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City uses council/manager form of government

Staff Report

Suffolk's form of government has been compared to that of a large corporation.

The City Manager is a full-time administrator, a professional trained in running a municipal corporation. City Council, like a board of directors with a chairman or mayor, is responsible to meeting the wishes of the voters, who are like stockholders in the company.

The voters hold the power, since they choose the council that chooses the manager. The power is delegated to council, which in turn delegates some of that power to the City Manager.

The council-manager form of government, as provided for in the city charter, is designed to combine the elements of good government: strong political leadership and public representation through an elected city council, and managerial skills and experience through an appointed city manager.

It is set up so there will never be a completely new government. When a new council is elected, the former City Manager remains, assuming that is council's wish. This is to provide a sense of continuity in the proceedings.

City Council holds power over the City Manager. The manager serves literally at the pleasure of council. There is no long-term contract for a City Manager. He is employed as long as council desires.

The manager, therefore, must ultimately be responsive to the citizens since they choose council.

Council is the city's legislative body. It sets policy. It approves the budget. It determines the tax rate. It considers nearly everything that may effects the lives of citizens.

The manager's role in the process is to provide council with recommendations, prepare a budget for council to consider, to act as council's chief advisor, and to see that council's plans are carried out.

The manager is supposed to bring the benefit of his experience and training to city government. In addition to advising council, the manager oversees and directs the city staff.

In policy matters, the manager may make recommendations to council, but council is not bound to follow any of the manager's advice. The manager, on the other hand, is bound by

See GOVERNMENT, page 2-C

John Rowe Jr., Suffolk City Manager

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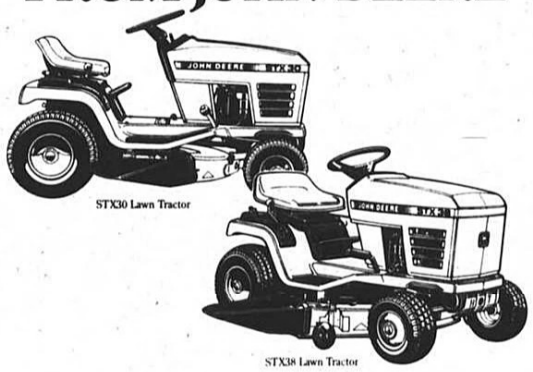

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Government

Continued from page 1-C

whatever action council may take regardless of whether that action coincides with his recommendations.

Most communities with a council-manager form of government have, as Suffolk does, a mayor whose duty is to lead council in its decisionmaking processes. The mayor, who is a member of council elected by his fellow councilmen to his post, chairs council meetings, represents the city at various functions, appoints advisory committees, coordinates their work, and maintains contact with other governmental agencies and civic groups.

Among its attributes, the council-manager form of government counts its minimalizing of the the danger of machine politics. By spreading the power, responsibility and accountability among a group of elected officials and an administrator appointed by those officials, council-manager government makes it difficult for any one person or group to grab control of the city government.

The arrangement follows the example of many businesses. It is true the City Manager wields more than a little power. Human beings being what they are, the temptation to abuse power is generally directly proportionate to the amount of power available to abuse. In an effort to assure City Manager's live up to the high standards they must in order to provide effective, honest government, managers have formed their own professional organization – the International City Management Association. The organization's members are bound by the group's code of ethics.

The code includes the commandment that members shall, "refrain from participation in the election of the members of his employing legislative body and from all partisan political activities which would impair his performance as a professional administrator."

The code of ethics includes 12 principles of personal conduct to which managers are bound. The code demands a total dedication to the cause of good government, serving the best interests of the public, acknowledging the supremacy of the governing officials elected by the people, and adhering to the strictest standards while seeing to it that the same standards are maintained by all employees of the local government.

This insistance that city

See GOVERNMENT, page 3-C

Johnnie Mizelle, Mayor, Sleepy Hole Borough councilman

Chris Jones, Vice mayor, Chuckatuck Borough councilman

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Government

Continued from page 2-C

managers remain unquestionably honest is not just a collection of pretty words. The city manager's association has earned high praise over the years for its vigorous efforts to insure complete integrity within the profession.

See GOVERNMENT, page 4-C

Enoch Copeland, Holy Neck Borough councilman

Andy Damiani, Suffolk Borough councilman

Ronald Hart, Cypress Borough councilman

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Curtis Milteer, Whaleyville Borough councilman

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Government

Continued from page 3-C

Nearly 2,400 communities across the United States and 54 other countries use the council-manager form of government, including 69 U.S. cities with populations over 100,000.

Phoenix, San Diego, Dallas, Cincinnati and Rochester are among the larger cities with council-manager government. It is the most popular form of government among cities of mor than 100,000 people in the U.S.

On the average, 75 American communities adopt the council-manager form of government each year. That has been true for nearly three decades, since the end of World War II.

Got a news tip?
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934-3111: The number to dial to reach city officials

A myriad of activity happens inside the peaceful brick Municipal complex on Market Street, situated nearly at the heart of downtown Suffolk. It does not have to remain a mystery to the newcomer in town, or to any citizen not familiar with the workings of city government.

It is simple to reach the city offices. Just call one number, 934-3111, and ask for the appropriate office. That number will also reach the library, the registrar's office, the local extension service and the police

Courts, clerk and state attorney

Two Circuit Court rooms are located in the Municipal Building. Criminal felony cases are tried there. The

See NUMBERS, page 5-C

Suffolk's state representatives

State Senator Mark Earley

State Senator Johnny Joannou

State Delegate Sam Glasscock

Want to write your state representatives? Here are their addresses: Del. J. Samuel Glasscock, National Bank Building, Suffolk, Va. 23434. State Sen. for (14th District), Mark Earley's, P.O. Box 3747, Norfolk, Va. 23514. State Sen. John S. Joannou, P.O. Box 1064, Portsmouth, Va. 23705. During sessions, all can be reached at: General Assembly Building, 910 Capital Street, Richmond, Va. 23219.

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Numbers

Continued from page 4-C

General District Court and Juvenile Domestic Relations Court, which handles traffic, juvenile and civil cases, is located in the court building at Main Street and Constance Road.

The office of the clerk of the court, Henry C. Murden, is located on the first floor of the Municipal Center, and performs many public duties in addition to the role as record keeper for judicial proceedings.

The clerk can perform marry ceremonies, issue marry licenses and hunting and fishing licenses. The office also records judgements for land transfers, deeds, wills, divorces, election results, charters and partnership as well as listing of new businesses.

The office of the Commonwealth Attorney is on the second floor of the Municipal Center, along with the office of the circuit court judges.

Commonwealth Attorney C. Phillips Ferguson and assistant attorneys W. Randolph Carter Jr., Kenneth Taft, and Nancy Parr are responsible for prosecuting persons charged with criminal offenses in Suffolk. The office deals directly with alleged victims and criminal witnesses.

Police and fire

The police department is also a part of the Municipal Center. The department is headed by police Chief Gilbert Jackson.

At night and during weekends, the number to call is 539-7431, while the emergency number is 539-3411. The Chuckatuck-Crittenden extension is 255-4676, while the South Quay number is 562-2100.

Suffolk's fire department, headed by Chief J. Samuel Carter, is located across from the Municipal Center on Market Street.

The emergency number for the fire department is 539-3131. Residents should call 465-1114 in northeast Suffolk, 255-2121 in

See NUMBERS, page 6-C

Suffolk's representatives in Washington

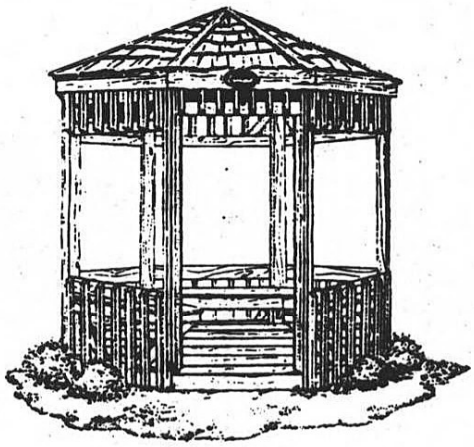
Sen. John Warner

Sen. Charles Robb

Rep. Norman Sisisky

So you want to write your congressman? Here are their addresses: Rep. Norman D. Sisisky (4th District), 801 Water Street, Portsmouth, Va. 23704; or 1429 Longworth Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515. Sen. Charles S. Robb, U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510. Sen John W. Warner, 405 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C., 20510.

GAZEBOS
By *Leonard*



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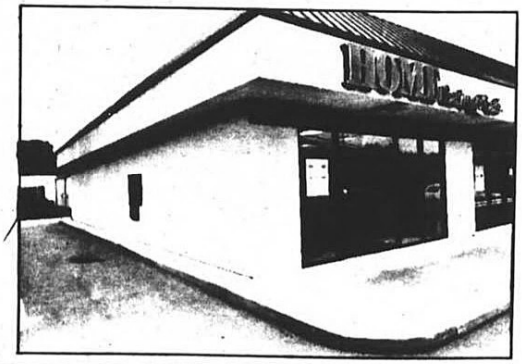

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Numbers

Continued from page 5-C

Chuckatuck, 562-2211 in South Quay.

The sheriff's department, supervised by Sheriff J. Irving Baines, is located at Constance Road and North Main Street.

City Treasurer

This office handles the city's money. It receives the tax revenues from real estate and persnal property owners. The office invests city funds and disperses them to vendors and manages bank accounts.

Suffolk's city treasurer, an elected constitutional officer, is Ronald H. Williams.

Citizens can also get a license for their dog and a city auto sticker from the treasurer's office. Stickers cannot be obtained until taxes for the previous year have been paid.

A related officer, the commissioner of the revenue, assesses the persnal property of citizens, and issues business licenses. The office provides a service by helping residents with their tax forms.

The city's real estate assessor prepares annual real estate property assessments after determining the value of all property within the city.

Planning, inspection

The community development office is where residents go to seek rezoning requests, conditional use permits, land plats or maps.

James G. Vacalis is the city's community development director, and he works closely with the planning commission, a body appointed by City Council to make recommendatons on zoning and planning matters.

The community development office includes the city building inspector's office, headed by Inspector Robert L. Barnett, which issues permits and inspects mechanical, structural and electrical work in city dwellings and buildings.

The building inspection department, along with the fire department, ensures that city and state codes are being abided by and that proper electrical work is being done in order to cut down on the possibility of fires.

The two departments may also collaborate to decide whether a swelling should be condemned because it is unsafe to inhabit.

City attorney

City Attorney William C. Johnson provide counsel to City Council and make sure the city is abiding by its codes and state and federal laws.

The office is resposible for representing council as a plaintiff or defendent in lawsuits, and gives recommendations to city officals seeking guidance on bill, ordinance or other action.

The office of the city attorney is located on the second floor of the Municipal Building.

Public Works

Public Works, directed by Thomas G. Hines, is related

See NUMBERS, page 7-C

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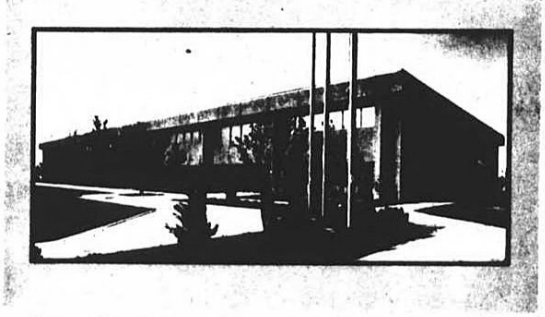

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Numbers

Continued from page 6-C

to public utilities in that it maintains the sewage system and develops new drainage construction. Public works crews pick up trash in the city, and also cut trees interfering with power lines and handle related problems.

Information

The Director of Public Information and Marketing Yolanda Jones-Howell, is managing a recently created department. She provides the media with information about the city, and helps prepare news releases for members of teh media and the general public.

Howell acts as a liason for information between the public and City Manager John L. Rowe Jr. She is also in charge of directing the production of in-house videos, such as ones produced about the Farmer's Market and the Route 58 bypass. Also, the city's informational cable television show, "City Talk," which airs of Suffolk Cablevision, is her responsibility.

Library services

Morgan Memorial Library, in a new building at Wellons and Washington Streets, is open weekdays and Saturdays until 8 p.m.

Residents may borrow books, record and other materials at no charge. The library also has a number of reference materials and offers periodicals for review or loan.

In addition to the physical materials, the library offers programs for children and adults, including lectures, discussions and films.

A system of satellite libraries has been added in most every corner of the city, including a station in Holland, Whaleyville, Chuckatuck and Bennetts Creek. The library's bookmobile makes routine, scheduled stops throughout the city.

Suffolk served by two volunteer rescue squads

The City of Suffolk has two rescue squads that service the 430 square miles of the city.

The Nansemond-Suffolk Rescue Squad serves the core city of Suffolk, southern Suffolk and the area surrounding downtown. The Bennetts Creek Rescue Squad serves Driver and northern Suffolk.

Both squads run on donations from the public and grants from the city. A new board of community leaders was formed in July of this year to help raise money for the Nansemond-Suffolk Rescue Squad, which came up with a $60,000 funding shortfall this year. The board pledged its permanent sup-

See RESCUE

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Rescue

Continued from page 7-C

port of the squad.

The Bennetts Creek Rescue squad also has some trouble with fundraising each year. It is responsible for the vastly growing northern Suffolk area that is expected to grow quickly once the Interstate 664 is completed connecting Suffolk with the Peninsula.

The squad's jurisdiction includes Bennetts Creek, Crittenden, Eclipse, Hobson, the northern end of Chuckatuck, Pughsville and Huntersville. The response area covers from the Isle of Wight line to the Chesapeake border and from the Nansemond Parkway at Wilroy Road to the Chesapeake line. In addition, the area includes up to Crittenden Road and Kings Highway.

The squad must raise slightly more money each year. Last year, for example, each call to the squad for service cost $100. This year the cost is estimated at $116 per call.

The Bennetts Creek Rescue Squad is staffed by 60 volunteers. It has no paid staff persons. All volunteers must go through extensive life saving training.

One of the required courses is the Emergency Vehicles Operation Class, which teaches the volunteers to drive the rescue vehicles defensively through traffic at high rates of speed.

The volunteers must be dedicated and put in much time to the squad, said John Burns, of the squad.

"It's almost at a point that you never get a chance to stay home," Burns said. "If you are not training, you're running calls."

Last year the squad responded to a number of industrial accidents at the construction of the I-664 bridge tunnel across the James River. It has also responded to a number of severe car accidents.

The Bennetts Creek Rescue Squad is located behind the Bennetts Creek Market and the Bennetts Creek Library Station off U.S. Route 17. The building is also a place where various civic functions are held for the area, including the Ruritan Club's Pancake Days.

The Ruritans helped raise funds to build the rescue squad building in the 1970s.

The Nansemond-Suffolk squad has many of the same needs as the Bennetts Creek squad. Volunteers put in long hours at work and in training.

Michael Berg, day crew supervisor for the squad, said donations must be stepped up to prevent squad from eventually closing and a private system started. If the volunteer system is discontinued, the cost to the taxpayer would be much higher, he said.

Berg hopes that the new citizens' advisory board will take the burden of fundraising off of the volunteers and give those volunteers more time in the field.

The Nansemond-Suffolk squad also has need of new rescue equipment including a new radio system and a new extrication tool designed for use with smaller cars. It is designed to remove accident victims from badly caved-in cars.

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How to get turned on, cut on and serviced

Staff Report

Electricity – Call Virginia Power at 539-2311 to inquire about getting service for your home or apartment. The office is located at 1616 N. Main St. A rent receipt and social security identification are needed, even if you just call.

Orders placed before 2 p.m. can usually be taken care of on the same day Orders made after 2 p.m. usually will be taken care of the next day.

If you've never had service before with Virginia Power, a deposit of $150 is required for electric heat and air conditioning. A deposit of $75 is needed if electric heat and air conditioning are not needed.

If you've had service before elsewhere, a positive letter of credit from the previous company could waiver the deposit entirely.

Billing is monthly and payment can be done by mail, at a bank or at the electric company's office.

Water and sewage – To have the water and sewage system working, bring the contract proving residency in a house or an apartment to the Public Utilities Customer Services Department at the Municipal Building. This is located at 441 Market St. Identification such as a driver's license or social security is also required.

A contract has to be signed and a minimum deposit of $35 for septic tank or a minimum deposit of $40 for city sewage is needed. The city will provide service usually the same day of application.

Gas – Suffolk Gas provides natural gas to Suffolk customers for heating, a range and water heater. An application can be made at their place of business at 130 Commerce St. The number is 539-2376. A deposit of $60 is needed for cooking or water heating. A deposit of $200 is needed for heating. This heating deposit is based on the two highest month's usage.

Either deposit is refunded if the customer pays all monthly bills on time for one year. Note: Interest is paid on the deposit for the year it's held.

A resident with gas line already installed can usually obtain service within a day after signing the application. Installation of new gas lines requires the company to notify MISS UTILITY 48 hours in advance. The service can be installed usually three to five days after the application.

Commonwealth Gas Services, Inc. can be reached at 393-7200.

TELEPHONE – Call Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company at 934-2400 for new customer service. It is necessary to supply your own .

The customer service will need an address and phone number where you can be reached. Social security and information about place of employment is also required.

Billing is monthly and may be paid by mail or through your bank.

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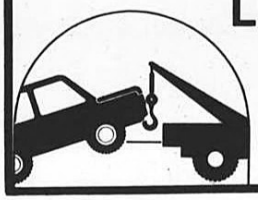

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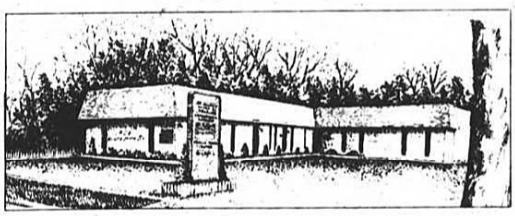

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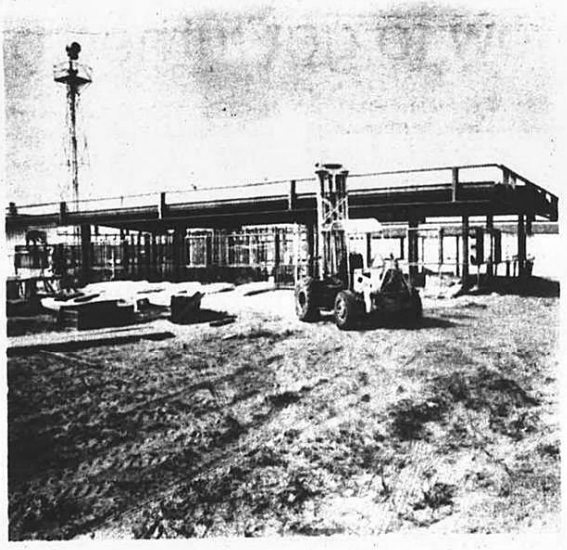
Commerce
The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Ocean Service does hydrographic surveying, oceangraphic work, fish hatcheries, research, and aeronautical charting with its ships. Contact the Atlantic Marine Center, 439 W. York (441-6616).

The National Weather Service at Norfolk International Airport can be reached at 853-3013.

Equal Employment Opportunity Commission
Investigates and resolves complaints of workplace discrimination because of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, and age.

Federal Aviation Administration
Air Traffic Control operates radar approach control service for Norfolk International Airport (where it's based), Naval Shipyard in Norfolk, Langley Air Force Base, Patrick Henry, and Ft. Eustis: 855-5071.

See FEDERAL, page 11-C



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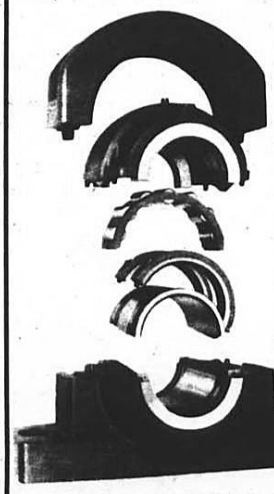
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Federal

Continued from page 10-C

Federal Communication Commission

Enforcement staff responds to complaints, investigates and prosecutes technical violations, inspects non-government radio stations, administers examinations and operates the nationwide training center for FCC field engineers. For commercial operators. 870 N. Military Hwy., 461-3000.

General Services Administration

Public Building Services maintains six federal buildigs and 42 leased locations from Emporia to the Northern Neck of Eastern Shore. Call for the building manager at 441-3300. Call 441-6356 to speak to the Fleet Manager about government vehicles.

Health and Human Services

Social Security Administration offices are at 220 Granby Mall (441-3401) in Norfolk; 1827 High St., Portsmouth (441-6491) in Portsmouth, and 140 W. Washington St., in Suffolk (539-1581).

Interior Dept.

The Fish and Wildlife Services operates the Back Bay, Dismal Swamp and Mackay Island Wildlife Refuges.

Internal Revenue Service

The office is located at 200 Granby Mall and is open for taxpayers who walk in, but cannot be contacted by telephone. Call toll-free at 800-424-1040.

Justice Dept.

200 Granby Mall, 623-3111, Drug Enforcement Administration, 441-3152. U.S. Attorney (441-6331) enforces federal laws and defends government agencies and personnel in court. The U.S. Marshal at 441-6792 is the federal enforcement branch of the government.

Labor

Wage and Hour Division monitors compliance (441-3490). Workmen's Compensation in Room 212 Federal Building, Norfolk, serves longshoremen and maritime workers only (441-3071).

Postal Service

Processes mail and sells stamps and money orders at offices throughout Hampton Roads. Passports may be obtained at 2400 Atlantic Ave., Virginia Beach and 600 Church St., Norfolk.

Transportation Dept.

Federal Railroad Administration (441-3324) oversees railroad safety in eastern Virginia. Federal Highway Administration can be contacted at 441-3534.

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Planning Commission's aim is guiding growth

The physical look and character of the City of Suffolk is largely the responsibility of the city's Planning Commission.

The purpose of the commission is to act objectively to inform the city council of citizen recommendations regarding the growth and development of their community, to call attention to early community problems and to evaluate long range impact of government actions.

An appointed board is in a better position to maintain its objectivity since it is neither threatened by not being reelected like an elected official or professional staff might be.

The Planning Commission consists of men and women appointed to four year terms to advise council on the ordinances, comprehensive plans and zoning maps that shape the growth of the city's residential, commercial and agricultural areas.

This 14-member board consists of two commissioners representing each of Suffolk's seven voting boroughs.

This year was a busy year for the Planning Commission. Council asked this advisory board to review and make recommendations on the city's new Subdivision Ordinance, Sewer Ordinance, Water Ordinance and Special Corridor Overlay District.

If that seems like a lot for the board to do when it only meets a few hours once a month, consider the fact that the Planning Commission was also asked to recommend an update on the city's comprehensive plan governing land use through the year 2005.

"If that was the only project that the Planning Commission had to do in one year it would be considered a busy year," said James G. Vacalis, community development director.

Not only did this board review and recommend four ordinances and a comprehensive plan, it also carried out the routine public hearings for citizens requesting zoning changes and conditional use permits.

The fact that the Planning Commission was able to accomplish all the council's requests in one year displays the good working relationship among the two bodies, according to Vacalis.

"I have seen cities where councils and planning commissions don't even speak to each other. There is plenty of dialogue between our council and planning commission. It's great...the only way to go," said Vacalis.

Understanding all the laws and theories pertaining to zoning is not something that comes quickly to a newly appointed commissioner. So Vacalis' office compiles a package for the new members on the board.

The new member usually takes a couple months to build a working knowledge of state and city law governing development and growth within a city. However, there is never a time that the board is not without veteran members who can answer questions to the newcomers.

The city's planning staff is

See PLANNING, page 13-C

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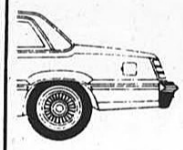
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Planning

Continued from page 12-C

also there to answer any questions and to help the Planning Commission in every possible way. The state recently developed a program to certify planning commissioners; however, a commissioner is not required to be certified or to be an expert in any of the field related to what the planning commission does.

The state program conducts several series throughout the year and across the state which cover such items as legality, the purpose of the commission and various issues in zoning.

The Planning Commission is the only 14-member advisory board in the city and its size relates back to the time that the cities of Suffolk and Nansemond merged in 1974. State regulations allow the board to have up to 15 members but no less than five.

The commissioners receive $50 a month if they attend the meeting. This is a token of the city's appreciation to each member who leaves work for several hours every third Tuesday afternoon to hear comments, review plans and make recommendations.

Since the commissioners do not have time to research every issue that comes before them, the board relies heavily on the city's planning staff to carry out the day-to-day policies and research.

Autumn harvest

When Autumn arrives in Suffolk, scenes like this with pumpkins ready to pick can be found throughout the city.

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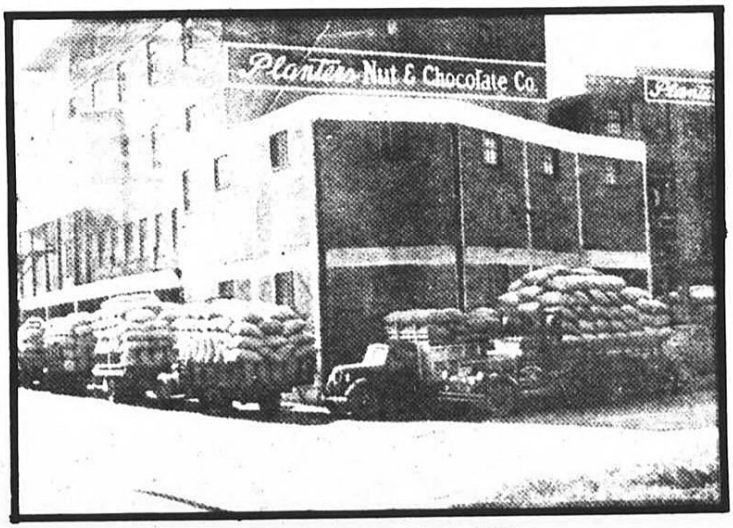
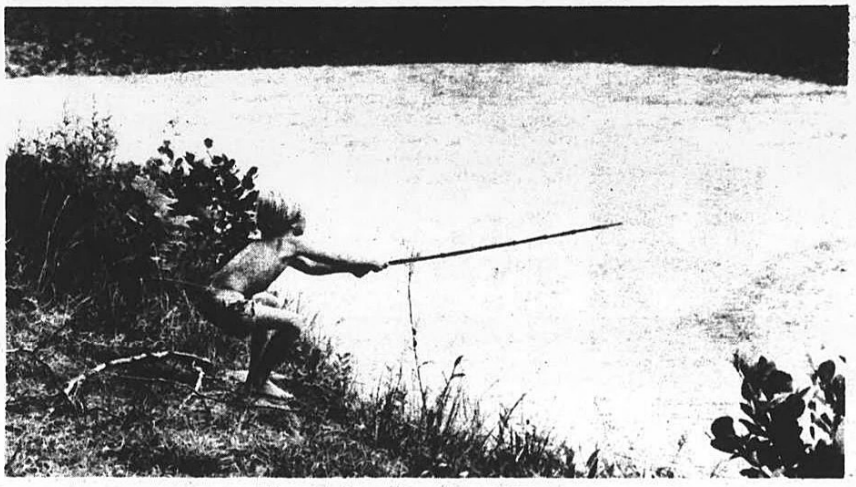


Trucks lined up at the factory in the 1930's.



Looking for the big one

Even in the rain there are many die-hard fishermen in Suffolk, like this little boy trying his luck in a local pond.

Industrial Development Authority attracts business to Suffolk

Like any good business, the Industrial Development Authority is in the business of keeping its current customers happy at the same time it's attracting new clients.

The seven appointed commissioners actively pursue a business retention program by personally taking questionaires to local industries. It is at this time that the commissioners hope to acknowledge the business and its contributions to Suffolk. The personal interview with the company is also designed to pinpoint potential problems and to discover any expansion plans that the company has.

"Its very, very important to find out problems that a company may have and then try to work with them on solutions. We do this in an attempt to keep businesses in the area," said Thomas N. Waller, economic development director.

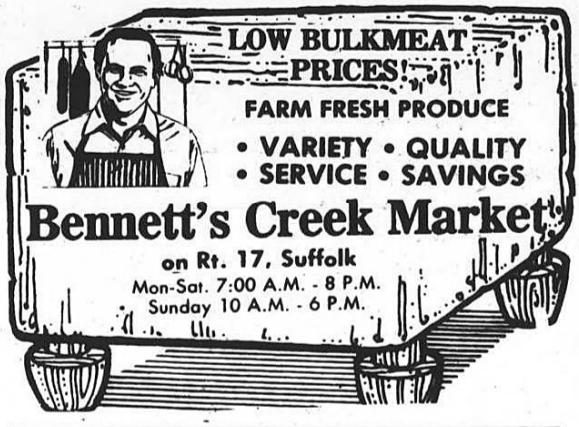
Existing companies are the best endorsement to potential companies to the city, according to Waller. If a company is happy with its treatment by the city, then even if the company outgrows its lot, they might be willing to relocate somewhere else in the city.

Although the Industrial Housing Authority doesn't make the newspapers as often as City Council or Redevelopment and Housing, that doesn't mean that the seven-member commission isn't doing its job.

The IDA receives its authority from Chapter 33 title 15 of the code of the Commonwealth of Virginia. The purpose of the authority is to review and recommend the issuance of industrial revenue bonds to city council.

These bonds are not taxable at the state and federal levels. This can act as an incentive to bring new business to the area. This is not the only nor necessarily the best source of money for a company, according to Waller. The IDA acts as a conduit in the case of industrial revenue bonds. It is responsible for reviewing the applications for the industrial revenue bonds to see if it is in the best interest of the community to issue one.

See INDUSTRY, page 15-C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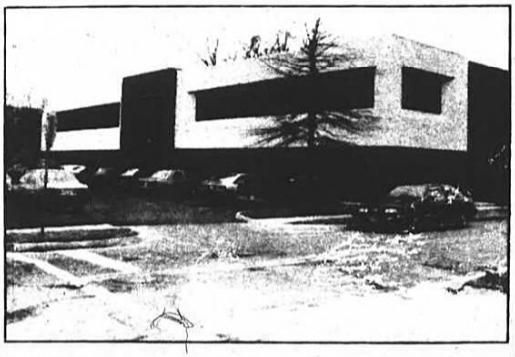

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Industry

Continued from page 14-C

Under the national Tax Reform Act of 1986, city council must hold a public hearing before it can authorize the IDA to issue the revenue bond. This new tax act came about from the general public impression that these bonds obligate the city in some way, according to Waller. In reality, neither the IDA nor the city are responsible for the the bond.

Once council approves, the bonds are bought by banks and other financial institutions at what local officials consider to be the best available rates. The only responsibility that the authority has is to find somone to use the equipment, land or building purchased with the bonds should a company default on the bond.

The loans are geared towards industries in need of at least $1 million, and may take as long as a year to process.

While bonds do help many businesses seeking to expand, very large businesses are better off using commerical loans, investments and other large scale capital-raising ideas.

Smaller businesses that are looking for less than $1 million in bonds usually find that the cost of the legal fees and administrative work is prohibitive to getting anything under a quarter of a million.

The funds may be used for land purchases, buying new buildings, improving old ones, for tool purchases or any type of capital expenditure.

As Waller sees it, the IDA has three roles in the city. Besides the first two roles of issuing industrial bonds and retaining existing businesses, IDA also buys and maintains industrial sites for potential development.

The best known IDA property is Wilroy Indutrial Park which houses such companies as Cable Value Network and Virginia Design Packaging Corporation. Since the industrial park is filled near to capacity, IDA also bought 52 acres off Suburban Drive near the industrial park.

However, the city's Economic Development department, which works closely with IDA, has identified several industrial lands around the city that a potential business might locate.

The seven commissioners to the authority are appointed by each member of City Council. Each member represents each of the seven boroughs in the city.

"It's usually a pretty good mix from business backgrounds, public sectors, and people who live in the city but are employed outside," said Waller.

The commissioners are sworn in at the beginning of March after a four year term. This date has a historic significance, according to Waller, who said that the IDA was the first visable cooperation between the County of Nansemond and the City of Suffolk.

The Chamber of Commerce for the area has played an historic role in the economic development, so that the time that the merger of the two governments occurred, an IDA was already in place, according to Waller.

By the time that the merger took affect in January 1974 and the council members for the new city finally appointed commissioners to IDA, it was March.

FEDERAL FUNDS

Which states get the most

State	Federal funds awarded per capita
Alaska	$5,421
Virginia	$5,317
Maryland	$5,113
New Mexico	$4,911
North Dakota	$4,467
Hawaii	$4,394
Massachusetts	$4,358
Connecticut	$4,236
Missouri	$4,128
Washington	$3,883

Source: Bureau of the Census

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Suffolk is served by 18 educational facilities

Suffolk Public Schools serve students throughout the entire city. There are four high schools, three intermediate schools, nine elementary schools, one vocational technical school and one special education center.

Three of the high schools will convert to intermediate schools, and the three intermediate schools will become elementary facilities when the northern and southern high schools open in September 1990. Suffolk High and Holland and Thomas Jefferson Elementary Schools will close.

High Schools:

Forest Glen, 200 Forest Glen Drive
Telephone: 539-1011

John F. Kennedy, 2325 E. Washington St.
Telephone: 934-2361

Suffolk, 301 N. Saratoga St.
Telephone: 539-7491

John Yeates, 4901 Bennett's Pasture Rd.
Telephone: 539-5567, 484-1633

Intermediate Schools:

Driver, 4270 Driver Lane
Telephone: 539-4434, 488-5761

Booker T. Washington, 204 Walnut St.
Telephone: 539-6323

Southwestern, 9301 Southwestern Blvd.
Telephone: 657-6181

Elementary Schools:

Elephant's Fork, 2316 William Reid Drive
Telephone: 539-9951

Florence Bowser, 4540 Nansemond Pkwy.
Telephone: 539-0412, 488-5181

Holland, 6620 Holland Rd.
Telephone: 657-6613

Kilby Shores, 111 Kilby Shores Drive
Telephone: 539-9964

Mount Zion, 3264 Pruden Blvd.
Telephone: 539-1744

Nansemond Parkway, 3012 Nansemond Pkwy.
Telephone: 539-9968, 488-7919

Oakland, 5505 Godwin Blvd.
Telephone: 255-4394

Robertson, 132 Robertson St.
Telephone: 986-4423

Thomas Jefferson, 237 Clay St.
Telephone: 539-3198

P.D. Pruden Vocational-Technical Center, 4169 Pruden Blvd.
Telephone: 539-7407
Director: Peggy Wade

King's Fork Re-Ed School, 3877 Rob's Drive
Telephone: 539-2388
Coordinator: Charlene Wentland

The following is a list of school administrators in the Central Office. They can be reached at 934-2341

- Superintendent: C. Lindsey Suggs
- Assistant Superintendent for Instruction and Personnel: Beverly B. Cox III

See SCHOOLS, page 17-C

Lula Holland, Chairman Suffolk School Board

Maxine Allen, Vice chairman Suffolk School Board

Lindsey Suggs, Superintendent of Schools

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Schools

Continued from page 16-C

- Assistant Superintendent for Pupil Personnel and Special Programs: Leon Patton
- Clerk of the School Board: Janice C. Carter
- Coordinator of Vocational/Adult Education: Judy Liles
- Coordinator of Federal Programs, Gifted and Talented Education: Jacqueline A. Walker
- Coordinator of Elementary Education: Jacquelin D. Marshall
- Coordinator of Special Education: Patricia Meyer
- Coordinator of Facilities Planning: James D. Thorsen
- Coordinator of Personnel and Staff Development: Eugene C. Davis
- Coordinator of Pupil Personnel: Iness Taylor
- Coordinator of Intermediate and Secondary Education: William Hill
- Supervisor of Intermediate and Secondary Education: George H. Marshall
- Supervisor of Elementary Education: Lynn Cross
- Supervisor of Research and Computer Technology: Milton Liverman
- Psychologists: Ben W. Price Jr., David E. Johnson, Jacqueline French
- Public Information Officer: Bethanne Griffin

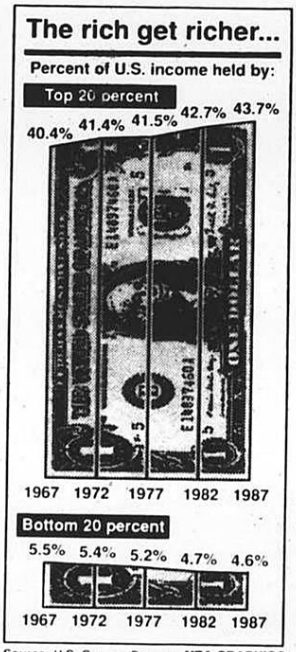
Robert Baker III, School Board member

Lee Hernquist, School Board member

John Saunders, School Board member

David B. Sweat, School Board member

Charles Christian, School Board member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1967 1972 1977 1982 1987
Bottom 20 percent
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1967 1972 1977 1982 1987
Source: U.S. Census Bureau NEA GRAPHICS

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Suffolk is protected by paid and volunteer firemen

Fire protection in the city of Suffolk is provided by the Suffolk Fire Department and four active volunteer fire departments in Chuckatuck, Driver, Holland and Whaleyville.

"These volunteers are critically essential in providing fire protection services," said Suffolk Fire Chief J. Samuel Carter.

"They are well trained and organized and I feel are a valuable asset to Suffolk."

Carter said that during 1988 his department responded to 1,371 calls and the volunteers responded to 409 of these. He estimates that the property value protected through these calls is approximately $36.9 million while sustaining a loss of only $$1.5 million.

"Of course, any loss is too much," he said. "But I am very proud of the way all my crews responded to those calls."

And they perform so many other services beside putting out fires.

A glance at some of them makes one wonder when they possibly get the time. The department offers fire safety programs and demonstrations to the public on home fire inspection, home escape planning from fire and proper installation of smoke alarms.

Also offered are school programs on kitchen fire safety, babysitting fire safety, use of portable fire extinguishers, tours of the fire station, demonstrations of equipment and seasonal messages on fire safety.

Carter has been with the department since 1949 and has seen much progress both in fire station construction and equipment as well as with personnel.

Pointing proudly to Olivia Shields, who joined the department in 1973, he said she was the first female dispatcher in the history of the department. There are now three other dispatchers, but Shields is the chief.

Carter said one of her greatest assets that has sustained her fellow employees as well as hysterical callers, is her "calmness."

"She never gets ruffled or upset," he said. "No matter what the call."

Shields meanwhile said one her greatest "fears" is that the caller will hang up the telephone before she can get the address of the fire. "One time I got a call from an elderly lady and she didn't know where she was. I kept questioning her and was finally able to determine her address in time to help."

Carter now has two female firefighters for whom he has the highest regard.

"There is no distinction made between them and the men. They train as the men do and answer the calls and take the same risks as our men."

One, Martina Dawn Campbell, age 25, is stationed at the fire department's headquarters on Market Street and the other, Beth Craddock Cruse, age 23, is attached to the department's No. 3 station on Pitchkettle Road.

Fireman used to work 24 hours on and 24 hours off, but they now enjoy fewer hours, Carter said.

And when they are on duty, they eat and sleep in the fire stations. Carter said the men pool their resources for food and appoint one or two (who like it) to do the cooking.

This arrangement has worked out very well, Carter said.

"They plan their menu and check grocery prices to get the best buys and you wouldn't believe what they can do with hamburger."

When the Suffolk Fire De-

See FIRE, page 20-C

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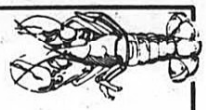
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Extension Service has served city since 1914

Cooperative Extension work began in and around Suffolk with the formation of corn clubs and canning clubs in Nansemond County around 1908 to 1910. National legislation established the formal existance of the Extension Service and Nansemond County was one of several Virginia localities to establish a local Extension unit soon after that year.

While the technology and information has changed drastically since then, the basic mission of the Suffolk Extension Service remains the same; to transfer important, research based information from Virginia Tech, Virginia State and other USDA and Land-Grant Institutions to the local people.

The facilities and tools used in Extension work have also changed drastically. The Suffolk Office located in the Human Resources Building on 440 Market Street is now equipped with a modern demonstration kitchen, conference rooms, a publications library, computer programtwo secretaries. Fan Panton heads up the 4-H youth and community resource development programs while

Fan Panton

also serving as the local unit director or department head for Extension. Home Economist Faye Taylor has major responsibility in home economics programs while agriculture agents Bob Coggsdale and Allen Harperf are responsible for agriculture and natural resource programs.

It is almost a misnomer to call Ethel Hart and Susan Sharp secretaries because of the variety of tasks they perform for the Suffolk Extension unit. In addition to secretarial duties, they prepare aricultural samples for shipment to state laboratories, do art work, and graphics for educational displays, handle financial accounts for educational programs and help manage a large publications library.

To provide high quality educational programs, the Suffolk Extension Unit depends heavily on local volunteers and resource people. Local Extension advisory committes help the staff set priorities based on local needs and evaluate the effectiveness of local programs. Additionally, volunteers help carry out programs serving as 4-H club and project leaders, master food preservers and farm demonstration cooperators to name a few.

The 4-H program offers Suffolk youth, ages 9 to 19, a wide variety of learning by doing opportunities. Four-H projects are available to community and school 4-H club members in everything from computer science to physical fitness to livestock production. In additon to club and project work, summer

See EXTENSION, page 20-C

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Extension

Continued from page 19-C

camping programs, computer workshops and business management workshops are available.

Local, regional and state demonstration programs allow 4-H'ers to publicly present or display their project achievements and be recognized for work well done. Youth who have completed several years of 4-H participation may get the opportunity to participate in the state 4-H congress held each year at Virginia Tech or even the National 4-H Congress held in Chicago, Illinois.

Home economics work has expanded over the years ot include much more than home food and clothing subjects. While modern food preservation and safety and clothing construction are still important, many other important issues are addressed by Suffolk Extension home economics programs. Home based business workshops, family tax, estate, and insurance workshops, family credit management, dealing with the phosphate detergent ban, workshops on providing care for elderly and working families management learn by mail series are just a few examples of programs available from the Suffolk unit.

Certainly, the more traditional home economics subjects are also available through such programs as Master Food Preservers and adult and youth clothing construction classes.

Agriculture programming is concentrated in subjects that impact Suffolk's agricultural economy and individual farmers and agri-business people. Many educational programs and demonstrations are conducted in the erea of peanut and row crop production and management, swine and beef production and management, horse nutrition and health, soil and water quality conservation, farm business management and farm marketing.

January and February are the traditional months to hold many of Suffolk's educational meetings for agriculture. Recently completed or to be held are the annual peanut production meeting, swine production meeting, beef cattle update, a 4-day farm management school and a farm tax workshop.

Advising and consulting individuals also plays a key role in the agriculture programming effort. To facilate this, laboratory services are available trough the Suffolk office for soil testing, nematode assay, seed germination tests, feed testing and animal waste fertility value assays. These same services are also available to home gardeners and home grounds keepers.

The program area entitled Community Resource Development sounds vague but in reality it is not. What this program area means is that the local government and local organizations have access to expertise and assistance from Virginia Tech and Virginia State Universities and the local extension office.

Local individuals and organizations are encouraged to make use of the programs and services provided by the Suffolk Extension Service.

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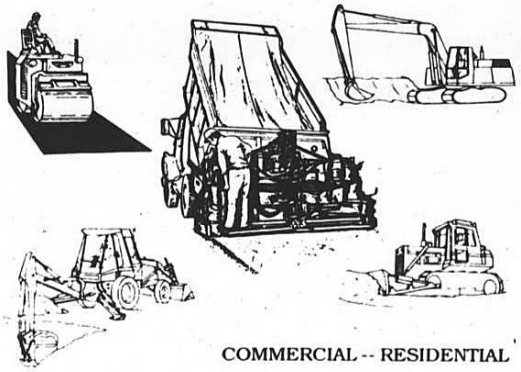

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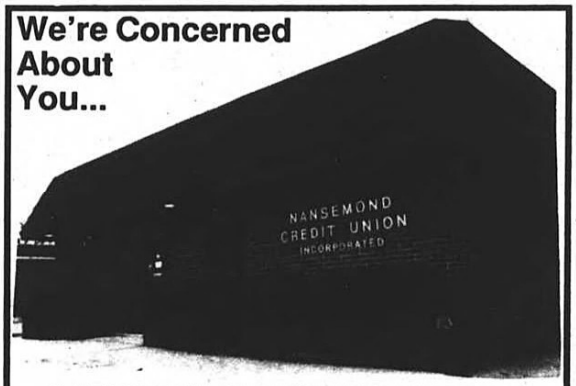

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Fire

Continued from page 18-C

partment was first organized in 1884, it was equipped with a hand-drawn chemical engine which had to be operated manually. And until gasoline motors were put on the market, the department used horse-drawn engines.

The department's present-day equipment is a far cry from those days Carter said, and foremost is the Grumman 95 Aerial Platform which can reach as high as four stories.

"It can reach any building in Suffolk," Carter said. "In addition to rescuing someone from a high building, the basket can be extended over a river to reach someone. It will go below zero elevation.

"We've had this equipment since 1986 but fortunately haven't had much occasion to use it,"said Assistant Chief L. J. Carr, Jr.

"The control panel in the truck controls everything on the truck. There are similar controls in the basket, but the man on the ground can take all controls away from the basket if necessary,"he said.

One of its most innovative features, designed to save more lives, Carr said, is that it permits people to descend down the ladder while others are still being rescued with the basket.

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St. Mark African Methodist Episcopal - McKinley Avenue.

Assemblies of God

First Assembly of God - 418 E. Pinner St.

Baptist

Allen Grove Baptist - 6921 Brentwood Rd.
Balm of Gilead Baptist - 3731 Whitemarsh Rd.
Community Baptist - U.S. 460, Pruden Boulevard
Diamond Grove Baptist - Crittenden Road.
Little Mt. Zion Baptist - 3288 Pruden Blvd.
Little Zion Baptist - 4701 Sleepy Hole Rd.
Nansemond River Baptist - 2896 Bridge Rd.
Mineral Springs Baptist Church - 4849 Mineral Spring Rd.
Missouri Baptist - 2020 Lake Cohoon Rd.
Oak Grove Baptist - 2635 E. Washington St.
Palm Tree Baptist - 8165 Whaleyville Blvd.
Piney Grove Baptist - Deer Path Road.
Pleasant Union Baptist - 215 Webb St.

Methodist

Methodist - 202 N. Main St.
Oxford United Methodist - 601 W. Washington St.
Providence United Methodist - 3105 Providence Rd.
St. Paul Baptist - 412 Pitchkettle Rd.
St. Timothy Baptist - 1613 E.

See CHURCHES, page 22-C

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Churches

Continued from page 21-C

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Tabernacle Baptist - 2400 Holland Rd.
Tabernacle Baptist - 3621 Nansemond Pkwy.

Baptist - Independent

Liberty Baptist - 2601 Godwin Blvd.

Baptist - Southern

First Baptist Mahan - 112 Mahan St.
First Baptist Main - 237 N. Main St.
First Baptist Orlando - 505 Eola Ave.
Great Fork Baptist - 130 Great Fork Rd.
Healing Chapel Baptist - Exchange Rd.
Hillcrest Baptist - 1637 Holland Rd.
Lakeview Baptist - 635 Brooke Ave.
Piney Grove Baptist - 1390 Lawson Circle.
Sixth Street Baptist - Goodman Street.
West End Baptist - 510 W. Washington St.
Wilroy Baptist - 306 Williams St.

Catholic

St. Mary's Catholic - 202 S. Broad St.

Christian

Bethlehem Christian - 1549 Holland Rd.
Cypress Chapel Christian - 1891 Cypress Chapel Rd.
Liberty Spring Christian - 1413 Carolina Rd.
Suffolk Christian - 216 N. Main St.
Trinity Christian - 128 Franklin St.

Church of Christ

Holland Mission United Church of Christ - 221 Dutch Rd.
Holy Neck United Church of Christ - 7566 Quaker Rd.
Mt. Ararat United Church of Christ - Airport Road.
Suffolk Church of Christ - 2025 Holland Rd.
Tabernacle Christian United Church of Christ - 1401 E. Washington St.

Church of God in Christ

Friendship Church of God in Christ - Rt. 10, Godwin Boulevard.
New Jerusalem Church of God in Christ - Carrsville.
New Mt. Joy Church of God in Christ - 307 County St.
Old Mt. Joy Church of God in Christ - Georgia Avenue.
St. Mary's Church of God in Christ - Nansemond Parkway

Episcopal

Glebe Episcopal - 4400 Nansemond Pkwy.
St. John's Episcopal - 828 King's Hwy.
St. Mark Episcopal - 140 Tynes St.
St. Paul's Episcopal - 213 N. Main St.

Non-Denominational

Faith of Deliverance - 239 Holiday St.
Faith Temple Apostolic Holiness - 476 Wellons St.
Open Door - King's Fork and Matoaka Road.

Pentecostal

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See CHURCHES, page 23-C

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American Business Women's Association, Suffolk Charter Chapter
American Cancer Society, Suffolk Chapter
American Heart Association, Suffolk Chapter
American Legion Post 57
American Lung Association, Suffolk Chapter
American Red Cross, Suffolk Chapter
Association for Retarded Citizens, Tri-County
Beaux Fashion Club
Bennett's Creek Rescue Squad
Beta Sigma Phi Sorority
Better Business Bureau of Southeastern Virginia
Catholic Family Services
Children's Center
Chums Club
Civic Leagues
Civitan Club of Suffolk
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Crisis Center
Cult Awareness Network
Daughters of the American Revolution, Constantia Chapter
Delta Sigma Theta
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See CIVIV, page 24-C

Churches

Continued from page 22-C

King's Grove Pentecostl Holiness - 6300 Old Myrtle Rd.
Rising St. James Pentecostal Holiness - Sixth and Bank Street Extension.
St. John Pentecostal Holiness - 218 N. Division St.
St. Philip Pentecostal Holiness - Ashley Avenue.
White's Temple Prayer Center - 170 E. Washington St.

Presbyterian

Suffolk Presbyterian - 410 N. Broad St.

Presbyterian in America

Grace Presbyterian - 5433 Shoulders Hill Rd.

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Capernaum SDA - 314 York St.

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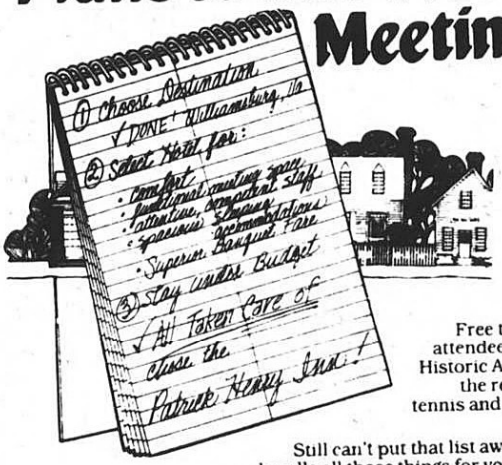

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Civic

Continued from page 23-C

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Imperial Crescent Club
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Junior Volunteer Service Corps
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Kiwanis Club of Suffolk
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Lakeview Heights Garden Club
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Nansemond River Garden Club
Nansemond-Suffolk Historical Society
Nansemond-Suffolk Rescue Squad
National Association of Retired Folks
North Suffolk Rotary Club
Odd Fellows
Old Dominion Area Council Boy Scouts of America
Omega Psi Phi Fraternity
Overeaters' Anonymous
Pickard Chorale
Pilot Club of Suffolk
Reids Ferry Cultural Arts Club
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Retired Senior Volunteer Program
Riddick's Folly, Inc.
Riverview Garden Club
Rotary Club of Suffolk
Ruritan Club
Salvation Army
Sans Souci Club
SEVAMP Senior Services
Shrine Club
Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority
Smart Set Club
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Social and Savings Club
Students Against Drunk Driving
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Suffolk Art League
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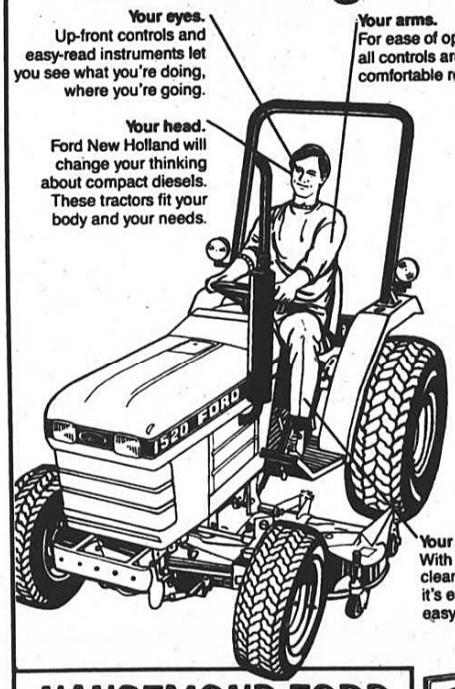
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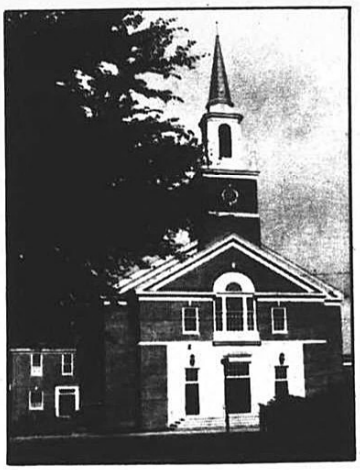

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Sunday School ..... 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Worship Services ..... 11 am and 7 pm
Wednesday Prayer Service ..... 6:30 pm

First Baptist Church
237 N. Main St. 539-4152
Charles W. Thompson, Pastor